

**FBIS****DAILY REPORT**  
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NAKASONE ON POST-CHERNENKO USSR RELATIONS

OW120347 Tokyo NHK Television Network in Japanese 0103 GMT 12 Mar 85

[From live relay of interpellations at Budget Committee session of the House of Councillors on 12 March]

[Excerpt] [Councillor Yoshiharu Kawana, Komeito Party] First, I would like to make an interpellation not included in the notice. The death of General Secretary Chernenko was suddenly announced yesterday. On my part, I would like to take this opportunity to express my condolences. And I would like to ask the prime minister for his views on whether there will be any change of policy to the Soviet Union, and whether there will be any changes in the policy of the Soviet Union to Japan now that General Secretary Chernenko has passed away.

[Committee chairman] Prime Minister Nakasone.

[Nakasone] On behalf of the Japanese Government and people, I would like to express my sincerest condolences over the sudden death of General Secretary Chernenko of the Soviet Union. Though General Secretary Chernenko has been in his post for only a short period, we regard him as a very flexible and realistic advocate of peace. In January, discussions were started with President Reagan on disarmament, centered on nuclear disarmament, and at long last, the second concrete negotiations will start on 12 March. It is certainly a matter of extreme regret that he should pass away at this point. Nevertheless, I sincerely hope that the Soviet leadership will carry out the intentions of the late general secretary, and bring the Geneva talks to a successful and fruitful conclusion.

I do not know about the internal affairs of the Soviet Union. However, with the emergence of a new young leader in his fifties, it can be imagined that the domestic atmosphere will change to some extent. Yet, the Soviet Union is a country moved, not by the force of an individual, but by that of an organization. Particularly at the outset of a new regime, it tends to be moved by the force of the original organization. In this context, I am convinced that there will be no changes in Soviet policies for the time being, and there will be no changes in policy to Japan, either. On our part, we intend to continue the policy of persistently carrying on dialogue, based on established policy, and strengthening friendship by expanding the sphere of dialogue.

[Committee chairman] Mr Kuwana.

[Kuwana] It was reported this morning that the prime minister himself will attend the funeral service. What was the decision made at the cabinet meeting this morning? Last time, the foreign minister attended Andropov's funeral. Since the prime minister has actively pursued his policy on the Soviet Union, will the prime minister himself attend the funeral, and invite Foreign Minister Gromyko to visit Japan?

[Committee chairman] Prime Minister Nakasone.

[Nakasone] The Soviet Union is Japan's neighboring power, and it is one of the countries of importance to Japan, since we have close economic and other relations with it. In this connection, at the sudden death of the head of state of our neighbor, I think etiquette -- not only between people, but also between nations -- demands that, on behalf of the Japanese people, we should express condolences to the Soviet people and its leadership. Therefore, I hope that, if it is possible, I myself and the foreign minister can go to Moscow to express our condolences and attend the funeral.

However, I think that we cannot do so without the understanding of the members of the House of Councillors, particularly members of the Budget Committee, because we are now in an important period when deliberations of the budget are in process at the House of Councillors. In this connection, I have asked the LDP councillors to seek the opinion of all the councillors and, with your understanding, I myself and the foreign minister plan to leave this evening. We have made efforts to obtain understanding from members of various parties in the House of Councillors.

[Committee chairman] Mr Kuwana.

[Kuwana] You have mentioned the new disarmament talks between the United States and the Soviet Union in your answer just now. We are concerned that General Secretary Chernenko's death may have some impact on those talks. According to news reports, the talks will be held as scheduled. There may be some impact on the process of the talks. I would like to ask the prime minister for his views on this point.

[Committee chairman] Prime Minister Nakasone.

[Nakasone] In my opinion, there will be no impact for the time being. As I have just stated, the Soviet Union is a country moved by the force of an organization. Furthermore, even when the new leadership is formed, it will take some time before it can bring its own characteristics into full play. In this connection, I think that everything will be carried on in accordance with the original policies for the time being, and negotiations at the Geneva talks on 12 March will be carried out as originally planned. I expect no changes at the coming talks.

#### NAKASONE, ABE, OTHERS VISIT SOVIET EMBASSY

OW120355 Tokyo KYODO in English 0335 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] Tokyo, March 12 KYODO -- Leading politicians and businessmen visited the Soviet Embassy here Tuesday to express condolences over the death of Soviet President Konstantin Chernenko. Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe, Japan Socialist Party leader Masashi Ishibashi and Tokyo Governor Shunichi Suzuki were among them. Abe's predecessor Yoshio Sakurachi, who is leader of a parliamentary League for Japan-Soviet Friendship, was the first to visit the embassy.

#### PRIME MINISTER, ABE LEAVE FOR CHERNENKO FUNERAL

OW121001 Tokyo KYODO in English 0954 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] Tokyo, March 12 KYODO -- Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone left for Moscow Tuesday to attend the funeral of Soviet President Konstantin Chernenko and to possibly conduct some funeral diplomacy. Government officials said Nakasone, who is taking time away from Diet deliberations for the Moscow trip, may meet new Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and other foreign leaders attending Wednesday's funeral services. Nakasone was accompanied by Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe.

Official sources said Nakasone plans to take the opportunity to break the ice in the chilled relations between Japan and the Soviet Union and to express Japan's support for the U.S. and Soviet arms negotiations which got underway in Geneva Tuesday.

Nakasone briefly met Soviet Premier Nikolay Tikhonov in New Delhi last November when the two attended the funeral of assassinated Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, but the leaders of the two countries have not met *tete-a-tete* for serious talks for more than a decade.



The Japanese Government does not expect any dramatic change in Soviet policy toward Japan, but Foreign Ministry sources said Nakasone's "funeral diplomacy" would underscore Japan's willingness to promote relations with the Soviet Union. Japanese-Soviet ties have been strained by a long-running territorial dispute, which has held up the signing of a peace treaty to formally end the state of war between the two countries.

Government officials said Nakasone may meet Gorbachev, who was appointed party general secretary upon the death of Chernenko. The prime minister also hopes to meet leaders of major Western powers attending Chernenko's funeral, including U.S. Vice President George Bush, French President Francois Mitterrand and Italian President Sandro Pertini, Foreign Ministry sources said. If schedules permit, Nakasone also hopes to meet Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and Chinese Vice Premier Li Peng, they said.

Nakasone, who is up against a heavy parliamentary schedule, personally called leaders of the ruling and opposition parties Monday night to seek "understanding" of his Moscow trip, political sources said. Nakasone is expected to fly back to Tokyo on Thursday or Friday, Foreign Ministry sources said.

Other Japanese politicians to attend the funeral include Masashi Ishibashi, chairman of the top opposition Japan Socialist Party, and Tetsuzo Fuwa, chairman of the Japan Communist Party.

#### SOVIET ATTACHE ON GORBACHEV APPOINTMENT, TIES

OWL20841 Tokyo KYODO in English 0820 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] Tokyo, March 12 KYODO -- The Soviet Union is concerned that Japan may join a multilateral political-military front in the Pacific, the top Soviet military representative in Tokyo said Tuesday. Col. Yuriy Danilov, the Soviet military and air attache at the Soviet Embassy, also called for improved relations between Tokyo and Moscow which he described as "far from being good." Danilov, who was speaking at a press luncheon at the Foreign Correspondents' Club soon after Mikhail Gorbachev was elected new general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party, offered few insight [as received] on the new leadership at the Kremlin.

When asked to comment on the "change of generations" with the appointment of the 54-year-old Gorbachev as new party leader, he said "in our country the change of generations does not have such a dramatic meaning." He said Gorbachev's appointment followed party "procedures" and described the new leadership as part of the Soviet "collective leadership."

Turning to bilateral Japanese-Soviet relations, Danilov said the Soviet Union appreciates Japan's nonnuclear policy and the ban on sending the self-defense forces abroad, but is concerned about what he calls as "new tendencies" to associate Japan with the Western world.

"The notion of Western world is based on NATO military alliance," Danilov said. He said "it means quite a lot to us" in Japan's declared policy of acting as the cornerstone of American policy in the Asia-Pacific region. [as received]

He defended the Soviet military buildup in the Soviet-occupied islands off northern Japan, saying "we have the full right" for the military presence because, he said, the islands are Soviet territory. Danilov sidestepped a question whether the Soviet Union is in the process of developing a Soviet version of the space defense system similar to the U.S. "star wars" project. He said the Soviets "will go all the way, economically and financially, to match (the star wars program), to eradicate threat to our friends and allies."

#### USSR'S MARCHUK EXPECTED TO VISIT IN LATE APRIL

OW110255 Tokyo KYODO in English 0234 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Tokyo, March 11 KYODO -- Soviet Vice Premier Guriy Marchuk is likely to visit Japan in the end of April as a special guest for a science exposition which opens on March 17 in Tsukuba, north of Tokyo, sources said Monday. Marchuk will come around April 22, the Soviet's national day, as chief of the Soviet mission for the Tsukuba Expo '85, according to the sources. During his stay, Marchuk is expected to meet Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone and Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe to discuss issues between Japan and the Soviet Union, according to the sources.

The government sees Marchuk's visit as reflecting the Soviet's concern with improvement of the Japan-USSR relationship which has been cool since the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan in 1979, the sources said. Japan-Soviet dialogue was reopened when Dinmukhamed Kunayev, a Politburo member of the Soviet Communist Party, visited Tokyo and held talks with Nakasone in October last year. The move was also given a momentum by the meeting between Nakasone and Soviet Premier Nikolay Tikhonov on the occasion of the funeral for Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in November last year. The Japanese Government expects Marchuk's coming visit would further facilitate the high-level contact between Tokyo and Moscow. Marchuk is concurrently chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology.

#### SATO URGES EARLY RESUMPTION OF SOVIET FISH TALKS

OW120253 Tokyo KYODO in English 0245 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] Tokyo, March 12 KYODO -- Moriyoshi Sato, minister of agriculture, forestry and fisheries, stressed Tuesday he will devote his best efforts to resuming talks with the Soviet Union on an agreement on fishery cooperation. Sato told a press conference after the day's cabinet meeting that "we'd like to have the agreement so as to be in time for salmon fishing by Japanese boats in the north Pacific starting on May 1."

Negotiations were scheduled to resume in Moscow Wednesday, but the Soviet Union postponed them Monday night due to the death of Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko, government sources said.

#### U.S. PRESIDENT TALKS WITH JAPANESE AMBASSADOR

OW120451 Tokyo KYODO in English 0443 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] Washington, March 11 KYODO -- President Ronald Reagan Monday asked Japan for stepped-up efforts to open its market wider to settle bilateral trade issues, expressing his concern over mounting pressures for protectionist moves in the administration and Congress, Japanese sources said Monday.

Reagan made the call when he met with outgoing Japanese ambassador to the United States Yoshio Okawara at the White House. The President told Okawara that he is eager to see substantial progress in bilateral trade talks and solutions that will satisfy the U.S., the sources said.

Focal points of Japan-U.S. trade issues are -- telecommunications, electronics, forestry products and medical equipment -- the four areas specifically referred to by Reagan in his meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone in early January at Los Angeles. Okawara explained to Reagan that foreign companies will be given non-discriminatory access to the market related to procurement of equipment by Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Public Corp. (NTT) as it is denationalized on April 1.

He also said talks on medical equipment and drugs are making progress and that Japan is ready to study specific U.S. requests, if any, in the field of electronics. But Okawara said solving issues related to forestry products would be very difficult, the sources said.

Okawara told Reagan that it is necessary for the two countries to make efforts to reach agreement on these trade issues before the summit meeting of seven industrial nations scheduled for early May in Bonn. Reagan agreed with Okawara, according to the sources. Apart from economic issues, Reagan highly appreciated Japan's defense efforts, the sources said.

#### MINISTRY OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON TALKS WITH U.S.

OW111127 Tokyo KYODO in English 1036 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Tokyo, March 11 KYODO -- Warning of "tough" sentiment on Capitol Hill, the United States Monday called for Japan to further open its market through steps such as tariff cuts on forest products. In return, Japan cautioned America against losing "the whole picture" of two-way trade over 86 billion dollars a year, pointing to the growing protectionist mood in the United States.

Both countries traded charges of protectionism during the eighth semiannual Japan-U.S. trade committee which held its one-day meeting at the Foreign Ministry, a ministry official said.

Japanese and American officials reviewed "progress and the status quo" in trade consultations to date, but the meeting failed to produce any specific results, the Japanese official added.

During the morning session, a trade negotiator said, the Japanese side welcomed U.S. President Ronald Reagan's recent announcement of his decision not to seek an extension of Japan's voluntary auto export restraints. Deputy U.S. Trade Representative Michael Smith, who led the American delegation, recalled his recent appearance before a congressional committee at which U.S. lawmakers demanded that Japan shoulder its fair share of the burdens of the world economy, said the Japanese negotiator, who asked not to be named.

The Japanese group, led by Michihiko Kunihiro, director-general of the Foreign Ministry's Economic Affairs Bureau, voiced concern about a U.S. farm bill which the Japanese feared might reduce America's prowess as a farm produce exporter.

The Japanese trade negotiators also complained of the American failure to act against high surcharges on Japanese motorcycles and semifinished small trucks, according to one participant in Monday's talks. In its afternoon session, the trade committee shifted to various U.S. demands, including tariff reductions on forest products, aluminum skins and walnuts, Japanese permission for tall containers, and greater access for foreign lawyers to Japan.

The participant also said the American trade negotiators urged Japan to use U.S. vessels to carry cigarettes and automobiles more frequently, and to expand the number of chances for open bidding on procurements by government agencies and Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Public Corp. (NTT).

The negotiators also warned that there is no use for the Japan-U.S. trade committee to continue in existence unless it "produced specific results and made progress."

The Americans said that the Reagan administration is seeking progress in and results from sectoral talks on greater Japanese market access for forest products, telecommunications equipment, electronics and drugs and medical equipment. Japan and the United States will hold sectoral talks on pharmaceuticals and medical equipment here Tuesday and on telecommunications Wednesday before moving on to subcommittee-level consultations Thursday and Friday.

#### MODERATE TRADE SURPLUS REPORTED IN FEBRUARY

OW111111 Tokyo KYODO in English 0857 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Tokyo, March 11 KYODO -- Japan marked a moderate trade surplus of 2.36 billion dollars in February, raising the combined trade surplus for first 11 months of the current fiscal 1984 to a record 31.9 billion dollars, the Finance Ministry said Monday. The total figure between April 1984 and last month far exceeds last fiscal years record surplus of 23.3 billion dollars, ministry officials said.

A preliminary ministry report showed that February exports declined 2.5 percent from a year ago to 12.91 billion dollars, marking a year-to-year loss for the first time in a year and 10 months, mainly due to slowed exports to the United States, the officials said. February imports also dropped 4.7 percent from a year ago to 10.55 billion dollars on sluggish crude oil markets, recording a yearly loss for the fourth straight month, they said. Exports were calculated on a free-on-board (FOB) basis, while imports computed with cost, insurance and freight (CIF) included.

Japan's exports to the U.S., accounting for 35.3 percent of its total, edged up 3.3 percent over a year ago to 4.55 billion dollars, marking a single digit annual rise for the first time in a year and nine months, the officials said. Imports from the U.S. also dropped 1.9 percent to 2.22 billion dollars, resulting in a February surplus of 2.33 billion dollars.

The country's combined trade surplus with the U.S. for the first 11 months of fiscal 1984, ending this month, stood at 31.5 billion dollars, already more than last fiscal years record surplus of 21 billion dollars, the officials said. Automobile exports to the U.S. edged up 2.1 percent to 1.11 billion dollars and office equipment exports also rose 2.1 percent to 326 million dollars, but semiconductor and other electronic parts exports declined 6.4 percent to 141 million dollars for their first annual decline since February of 1981.

Japan's imports of manufactured goods from the U.S. went up 10.5 percent from a year ago, thanks largely to its purchase of three American aircraft in the month, the officials said. Japan's overall exports of automobiles declined 4.2 percent from a year ago to 2.22 billion dollars, posting a year-to-year drop for the first time in 18 months, the officials said.

Its exports of office equipment rose 11.4 percent to 600 million dollars, semiconductor and electronic parts went up 4.8 percent to 247 million dollars and videotape recorders climbed 2.7 percent to 509 million dollars. Overall imports of crude oil, accounting for 30.9 percent of its total imports, fell 7.4 percent to 3.26 billion dollars and its imports of other primary products, including iron ore, corn and soy beans, were also sluggish, the officials said.

Exports to the European Community declined 9.8 percent from a year ago to 1.50 billion dollars, while imports fell 2.8 percent to 662 million dollars for a surplus of 834 million dollars.

Office equipment exports to EC rose 18.7 percent from a year ago to 135 million dollars and those of semiconductor and electronic parts surged 47.4 percent to 79 million dollars, but videotape recorder exports sagged 42.6 percent to 63 million dollars.

Exports to nine countries and districts of Southeast Asia, including South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, India and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), declined 6.6 percent for the third straight yearly drop to 2.69 billion dollars. Its imports from them dropped 2.6 percent to 2.36 billion dollars, resulting in a surplus of 332 million dollars.

Japan's exports to China, on the other hand, soared 92.9 percent from a year ago to 815 million dollars, while its imports rose 7.7 percent to 513 million dollars, for a surplus of 302 million dollars.

#### NUCLEAR POWER SAFETY TALKS BEGUN WITH CHINA

OW111229 Tokyo KYODO in English 1203 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Tokyo, March 11 KYODO -- Japan and China began their first consultation on nuclear power safety here Monday. Eiichi Tsuji, chief of the Science and Technology Agency's Nuclear Safety Bureau, and eight other Japanese officials joined five Chinese delegates, including Tsuji's Chinese counterpart, Jiang Shengjie, at Monday's session.

There will be four meetings, the last March 23, and the Japanese delegates will explain the country's nuclear safety standards, after which the officials will draw up proposals for a bilateral agreement.

China established its State Bureau of Nuclear Power Safety last October.



KIM IL-SONG SENDS CONDOLENCE MESSAGE TO USSR

SK112347 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2337 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Pyongyang March 12 (KCNA) -- Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, sent a message of condolence on March 11 to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR on the death of K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR. The message reads:

I received with a deep sorrow the news that Comrade K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, died from illness.

At this sorrowful moment, I express deep condolences to you and, through you, to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and the Government of the USSR, the entire Soviet people and the bereaved family of the deceased on behalf of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Korean people and on my own.

Comrade K.U. Chernenko was an outstanding activist of the Communist Party and State of the Soviet Union and a staunch fighter for socialism and peace who had devoted his whole life to the sacred struggle to safeguard the gains of the October Revolution, strengthen the party, consolidate the Soviet state and social system and achieve the unity of the socialist countries and the cohesion of the international communist movement.

Faithful to the cause of Lenin, Comrade K.U. Chernenko made a great contribution after holding the supreme post of the Soviet party and state to the cause of increasing the economic power and defence capacity of the country, completing a developed socialist society, preventing a new world war against imperialism and defending peace and security in Europe and the rest of the world.

A close friend of the Korean people, Comrade K.U. Chernenko greatly contributed to expanding and developing onto a new higher stage the traditional relations of friendship and cooperation established between the parties, countries and peoples of Korea and the Soviet Union on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism and fully supported and encouraged our people in their just struggle for socialist construction and the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

Comrade K.U. Chernenko performed undying feats for the Soviet party and state and for socialism and the international communist movement.

The death of Comrade K.U. Chernenko is a great loss not only to the Soviet people but also to the peoples of Korea and other socialist countries and the world's peaceloving people.

Although Comrade K.U. Chernenko passed away, his precious feats will remain long in the hearts of the Soviet and Korean peoples and the progressive people of the world.



JOINT DECISION PUBLISHED ON CHERNENKO DEATH

SK120005 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2354 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Pyongyang March 12 (KCNA) -- A joint decision of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Central People's Committee and the Administration Council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was published on the death of Comrade K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR. It says:

Comrade K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, passed away on March 10, 1985, from an illness.

Comrade K.U. Chernenko was an outstanding activist of the Communist Party and State of the Soviet Union and a staunch fighter for communism and peace who had dedicated his whole life to the sacred struggle for defending the gains of the October Revolution, strengthening the party, consolidating the Soviet State system and achieving the unity of socialist countries and the cohesion of the international communist movement.

Comrade K.U. Chernenko, a faithful successor to the cause of Lenin, made a great contribution to the cause of increasing the economic power and defense capacity of the country, completing a developed socialist society and defending peace and security in Europe and the rest of the world against imperialism.

Comrade K.U. Chernenko, an intimate friend of our people, greatly contributed to expanding and developing onto a new higher stage the traditional friendly and cooperative relations forged between the parties, countries and peoples of Korea and the Soviet Union on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism and actively supported and encouraged our people in the just struggle for socialist construction and the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

The death of Comrade K.U. Chernenko is a sorrow not only to the Soviet people but also to the peoples of Korea and other socialist countries and the peaceloving people of the world.

1. For expressing the feelings of deep condolence over the death of Comrade K.U. Chernenko, the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Central People's Committee and the Administration Council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea set the day before and the day of his funeral as days of mourning for the whole country.

2. On days of mourning for the whole country flags will fly half-mast at all organs, factories, enterprises, schools and residential quarters in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, songs and dances will be prohibited throughout the country and a mourning programs be broadcast.

3. A party and government delegation headed by Comrade Kang Song-san, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and premier of the Administration Council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, will be sent to the funeral of the late Comrade K.U. Chernenko.

KIM IL-SONG SENDS GREETINGS TO GORBACHEV

SK120411 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0400 GMT 12 Nov 85

[Text] Pyongyang March 12 (KCNA) -- Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, sent a message of greetings on March 12 to Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. The message reads:

I, on behalf of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Korean people and on my own behalf, extend warmest congratulations and comradely greetings to you from the bottom of my heart on your election as general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

Your election as general secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU is an expression of the deep respect and trust of the Soviet communists and people in you, an outstanding activist of the communist party of the Soviet Union and the Soviet State.

We hope that the fraternal Soviet people under the correct leadership of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union headed by you will achieve new great successes in the struggle to complete a developed socialism in all aspects and defend peace and security in Europe and the rest of the world against the imperialists' adventurous policy of aggression and war.

I believe that the Korean-Soviet friendship with a long historical tradition based on a solid class alliance and comradeship will grow stronger in the interests of the two peoples and in conformity with the demand of the common cause of socialism and communism on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. I sincerely wish you health and great success in your responsible activities to strengthen and develop the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, increase the might of the Soviet Union and promote the welfare of the Soviet people.

KANG SONG-SAN LEAVES TO ATTEND CHERNENKO FUNERAL

SK120427 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0416 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] Pyongyang March 12 (KCNA) -- A DPRK party and government delegation headed by Comrade Kang Song-san, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and premier of the Administration Council, left here today by plane to attend the funeral of Comrade K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

The delegation includes Comrade Hwang Chang-yop, member and secretary of the WPK Central Committee, Yi Chong-mok, member of the WPK Central Committee and first vice-minister of foreign affairs and Kwon Hui-kyong, alternate member of the WPK Central Committee and DPRK ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Soviet Union.

It was seen off at the airport by Comrade Pak Song-chol, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and vice-president of the DPRK, Comrade Kim Yong-nam, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, vice-premier and foreign minister, Kim Chae-pong, alternate member, and vice-director of a department of the WPK Central Committee and officials concerned.

Soviet Ambassador to Korea Nikolay Shubnikov and his embassy officials were present at the airport.

DEPLOYMENT OF COPPERHEAD IN SOUTH DENOUNCED

SK110850 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2153 GMT 9 Mar 85

[NODONG SINMUN 10 March commentary: "Adventurous Arms Buildup Maneuvers"]

[Text] According to a recent South Korean radio report, some time ago the U.S.-South Korea Combined Forces Command unveiled a new-type antitank guided projectile called the Copperhead. This laser-guided weapon is reportedly a new weapon which can destroy even a moving armored target.

On the eve of the full-dressed operation of the "Team Spirit-85" joint military exercise, an enormous number of aggressive troops have been hurled into South Korea along with mass-destruction operational equipment. It is precisely under these circumstances that the U.S. imperialists have unveiled such a new weapon. This shows that military buildup maneuvers for northward invasion are being sought even more undisguisedly on the occasion of the joint military exercise.

Recently, military buildup maneuvers in South Korea have been further intensified since the U.S. imperialists announced that various kinds of modern military equipment, some 180 kinds, would be introduced into South Korea over several years. The U.S. imperialists have covertly introduced into South Korea neutron bombs, denounced and rejected everywhere in the world, and nuclear backpacks, branded as a most horrible special nuclear weapon. The U.S. imperialists have decided to stock an enormous amount of war supplies worth almost \$400 million in South Korea this year, as much as a seven-fold increase when compared to 1982. In addition, the U.S. imperialists are trying to replace 12 OA-37 aircraft of the U.S. Air Force in South Korea with 16 more modern OV-10 aircraft during the period of the "Team Spirit-85" war exercise.

The introduction of the modern guided projectile the U.S. imperialists unveiled in South Korea this time is a part of the arms buildup maneuvers they have frantically stepped up to complete preparations for a new war in Korea. Even more noteworthy is the fact that the U.S. imperialists are making preparations for the actual use of new lethal weapons through war exercises after introducing them into South Korea.

According to what has been made public, the Copperhead has been manufactured so that it can be fired by the 155-mm howitzers the U.S. troops in South Korea and the puppet troops are presently using. As soon as the "Team Spirit-85" war exercise was kicked off, the U.S. imperialists test-fired this new-type guided projectile in an air-to-ground firepower demonstration exercise.

According to an official announcement by the so-called spokesman of the U.S.-South Korea Combined Forces Command, this was the first time that the Copperhead was test-fired outside the U.S. mainland. This is crystal-clear proof that the U.S. imperialists use South Korea as a place of first deployment of modern weapons and as a place for the first test-firing. This time, Green Beret commandos, called the devil unit, are participating in the "Team Spirit-85" war exercise after finishing an exercise using ultraminiature nuclear bombs in Japan. This is also for the purpose of making preparations for the actual use of the nuclear backpacks which have already been deployed in South Korea.

Most atrocious lethal weapons have been brought into South Korea, and are exploded in a playing-with-fire manner. This is extremely dangerous.

This is precisely one of the important reasons why the people of the world condemn the "Team-Spirit-85" staged in South Korea by the U.S. imperialists as a preliminary and nuclear experimental war, and demand that the exercise be stopped. The U.S. imperialists must stop the adventuresome war exercise at once, and withdraw from South Korea without delay, taking along with them the lethal weapons and aggressive troops which have been introduced into South Korea.

U.S. MILITARY SALES CREDIT TO SOUTH DECRIED

SK111302 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2152 GMT 10 Mar 85

[NODONG SINMUN 11 March Commentary: "Ringleader Who Is Aggravating the Situation"]

[Text] Appearing before the U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee, the U.S. secretary of state asked the committee to give a foreign military sales credit of \$22.8 million to the South Korean puppets in the new fiscal year and defended the granting of the credit in a staunch manner.

The military sales credit which the U.S. imperialists plan to give South Korea in the new fiscal year is very high as it has been in recent years. It is a well-known fact that this huge amount of money will be spent on the puppet forces' so-called modernization. The U.S. granting of military aid to South Korea clearly shows that it is frantically reinforcing its forces of aggression in South Korea on a large scale and increasing the puppet forces' war potential while accelerating preparations for a new war against the Korean people.

The U.S. imperialists, who are turning South Korea into a hotbed for a new war, have already deployed numerous lethal weapons there, including some 1,000 nuclear weapons and neutron bombs; F-16 fighter-bombers; ultramodern long-range howitzers; A-10 close-support fighters; various kinds of offensive missiles, helicopters, and tanks; and are attempting to introduce Pershing II and cruise missiles. The U.S. imperialists are waiting for an opportunity in South Korea to provoke a new war after completing human and material preparations there.

The U.S. authorities' talk that the U.S. forces and the puppet forces will carry out combined command operations if a war breaks out in South Korea, while babbling about the common defense efforts of the United States and South Korea, is evidence of this fact. That is, the United States has already written a war scenario and is attempting to materialize it. The "Team-Spirit-85" combined military exercise is an experimental war, an experimental nuclear war, designed to carry out the operations plan for a new Korean war in an actual combat situation. The U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps units, and special mission units, and military materiel, and armored carriers, were deployed in South Korea from the air and the sea and joined the U.S. and the puppet forces stationed there. These forces are conducting in earnest landing exercises, river-crossing exercises, mobile warfare, air warfare, and naval warfare aimed at invading the northern half of the republic. This constitutes a grave threat to the security of our republic. Nobody knows when the U.S. attack war exercises will be turned into an actual attack.

The Korean peninsula is surrounded by a tense situation leading it to the brink of war. The United States led the situation to the brink of war. The U.S. person in authority talked nonsense, saying that the United States is defending against someone's threat while babbling about peace on the Korean peninsula.



He seems to think that such a lie can justify the provocative war exercise racket that is being kicked up in South Korea. His babble that the security of South Korea is a dire necessity for U.S. security clearly shows the U.S. ambition to keep South Korea as its colonial military base forever. No remarks can conceal the bellicose nature of the United States which is frantically preparing for a new Korea war provocation.

PAPER CONDEMNS CHON'S REMARKS ON REUNIFICATION

SK120703 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2153 GMT 11 Mar 85

[NODONG SINMUN 12 March commentary: "Shameless Propaganda"]

[Text] On 8 March, making remarks on the country's reunification, the South Korean dictator said that the reunification should be achieved through independent efforts and that, towards this end, national harmony should be achieved.

In order to achieve independent reunification and harmony, it is necessary to exclude outside interference blocking the independent reunification and harmony and to realize the democratization of social and political life so that the collective will of the people can be reflected in solving the reunification question.

In South Korea, where U.S. forces are stationed, discussion of reunification has been monopolized by the rulers and the people are being deprived of the freedom of expressing their opinions. He who has persistently opposed the withdrawal of the U.S. forces and suppressed the people who demand the democratization of the society and the reunification of the fatherland, has no room to call for independent reunification and for national harmony for such a reunification. He who is being denounced and rejected by the people every day, was only exacting submission behind the insincere facade of reunification. He also slandered us for stopping the North-South dialogue. The North-South economic talks and the Red Cross talks, which were provided by our side's initiatives, were stopped because of the "Team Spirit-85" joint military exercise. The joint military exercise, which is being staged in opposition to us, is an open hostile act demonstrating an attitude of confrontation, not an attitude of dialogue.

It is clear that the one who is sharpening a knife in front of us cannot become a sincere negotiator who would respect faithfulness. The ringleaders who blocked the dialogue by kicking up a war racket is the South side. The party concerned, which stopped the dialogue, cannot be successful no matter how much it may try to shift the responsibility for this onto another.

The country's independent and peaceful reunification is possible only under the condition in which outside forces do not interfere in the internal affairs of our country and realistic measures are taken for the reduction of tension. Our proposal for tripartite talks, consisting primarily of the conclusion of a peace agreement and the adoption of a declaration of nonaggression, are aimed at solving such a basic question.

If they desire reunification, they ought to have shown an affirmative response to our proposal for tripartite talks aimed at providing a prerequisite to reunification. Peace is needed in order to continue the suspended economic talks and the Red Cross talks. The sermon about reunification and dialogue, which one makes while aggravating the situation by kicking up war rackets, is an armchair argument. It is nothing but a smoke screen aimed at justifying their antinational division policy running counter to dialogue and reunification and their confrontational line of strength. People will not be cheated by such a strategy of camouflage.

If the South side desires dialogue and reunification, it should first stop the racket of the provocative military exercise and not pursue the confrontational line. The withdrawal of the U.S. troops from South Korea is a prerequisite to the fatherland's reunification. If the South side turns its face away from such a basic question, it is not qualified to discuss the independent reunification.

#### MEETING MARKS INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

SK091204 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2300 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Excerpt] A central report meeting marking the 75th anniversary of the 8 March International Women's Day was held in the People's Palace of Culture yesterday afternoon. Placed in the front of the site of the report meeting was the portrait of the great leader of our party and our people Comrade Kim Il-song. Put up at the site of the report meeting were the slogans reading: "Long live the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song" and "Long live the glorious WPK."

Present at the report meeting were Comrade Pak Song-chol, Comrade Chong Chun-ki, Comrade Ho Chong-suk, Chairman Kim Song-ae of the Central Committee of the Korean Democratic Women's Union [KDWU], anti-Japanese revolutionary women fighters, functionaries, of relevant sectors, and women labor innovators, along with the working women in Pyongyang. The wives of the diplomatic envoys of many countries in our country and foreign women were invited to the report meeting.

The report meeting began with the singing of the national anthem. Kang Chong-suk, general secretary of the KDWU Central Committee, made the commemorative report. The reporter said that we significantly greet the 75th anniversary of the 8 March International Women's Day, an international holiday for women of all the world, today in the magnificent environment in which all the people and women are waging a vigorous struggle to glorify the 40th anniversaries of the liberation of the fatherland and the founding of the party as a grand festivity of victors, upholding the programmatic teaching of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song at the 10th plenum of the sixth party Central Committee and his New Year's address.

She said that she sends warm congratulations on this day to all women who are registering shining exploits in the struggle, firmly rallying around the party and the leader, to accelerate socialist construction to carry out the chuche revolutionary cause ahead of schedule.

She said that she sends warm greetings on this occasion to the South Korean women revolutionaries and patriotic women who are waging a bloody struggle in spite of the fascist suppression to realize the independence and democratization of South Korean society and to realize at an early date the independent and peaceful reunification of the fatherland; to the overseas women compatriots, including the Japan-resident Korean women; and to women and friends in many countries of the world.

#### SO YUN-SOK GIVES SPEECH AT MEMORIAL SERVICE

SK100907 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0853 GMT 10 Mar 85

[Text] Pyongyang March 10 (KCNA) -- Pyongyang memorial services took place on March 9 on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the death of anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters Comrades Kwon Yong pyok, Yi Che-son, Chi Tae-hwan and Yi Tong-kol.



Comrade So Yun-sok, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and chief secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Party Committee, delivered a memorial address. He said:

Comrades Kwon Yong-pyok, Yi Che-son, Chi Tae-hwan and Yi Tong-kol were all born around the occupation of Korea by the Japanese imperialists and, from their young age, suffered all manner of maltreatment and humiliation, exploitation and oppression under their colonial rule. Their strong desire to participate in the righteous struggle for national salvation against Japanese imperialism could be met only when they were guided by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

Recalling that Comrade Kim Il-song stood them in the glorious ranks of the anti-Japanese armed struggle, the speaker said:

Taking part in the revolutionary struggle from spring 1931, Comrade Kwon Yong-pyok worked as a member of an underground revolutionary organisation and as chairman of the Sandaowan People's Revolutionary Government in the period of consolidating the guerrilla bases. He joined the Korean People's Revolutionary Army [KPRA] in March 1935, in which he was active as secretary of a company party cell and in 1936 as propaganda section chief and then organisational section chief of the main force led by Comrade Kim Il-song and afterwards he worked as chairman of the Changbai County Party Committee and vice-chairman of the Changbai County Committee of the Association for the Restoration of the Fatherland.

Comrade Yi Che-son took the post of chairman of the Changbai County Committee of the Association for the Restoration of the Fatherland and vice-chairman of the Changbai County Party Committee in February 1937. He devoted himself to implementing the line of anti-Japanese national united front put forward by Comrade Kim Il-song.

Comrade Chi Tae-hwan took part in the underground revolutionary struggle in his early years and joined the KPRA in 1934 in which he was active as a supply workers of the KPRA and later as an underground political worker.

Comrade Yi Tong-kol joined the KPRA in 1935 and worked as a company political instructor and then regimental political commissar of the KPRA and later was engaged in political work.

They were unhappily arrested by the Japanese imperialists and waged a prison struggle till they died a heroic death on the gallows of the Japanese imperialist beasts on 10th March 1945.

Their lives were not long. But they were shining lives which fully showed the ideological and spiritual traits of communist revolutionaries boundlessly faithful to the leader and the revolution, the country and the people. Their noble revolutionary spirit and traits are shining examples for all our party members and working people.

Present at the memorial service were Comrades Yim Chun-chu, So Chol and Chon Mun-sop. Papers today dedicate editorial articles to this anniversary.

CHERNENKO'S DEATH: 'NO RADICAL SHIFT' FORESEEN

SK120707 Seoul YONHAP in English 0700 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] Seoul, March 12 (OANA-YONHAP) -- Following the death of Soviet President Konstantin Chernenko, Soviet foreign policy is likely to remain unchanged for a considerable period, with no radical shift foreseen in its attitude toward the Korean peninsula, a South Korean Government source here said Tuesday.

The source predicted that it will take some time for the new Soviet leadership of Mikhail Gorbachev, the youngest member of the Politburo, to establish a strong power base. The source added that the communist nation would experience difficulties in altering its foreign policy immediately after the transfer of power. Sticking to its national interests as a superpower, the new Soviet leadership is likely to push for both hardline and moderate foreign policy approaches, according to the source.

Because Gorbachev, 54, unlike other Soviet leaders, was born after the 1917 Russian Revolution and because he is thought to be a nationalist, the source indicated that the new leader might demonstrate a flexible, not confrontal, side in arms talks with the United States and in his nation's improvement of relations with the Western bloc. Also, the source voiced a hope that any such detente between Moscow and Washington could reflect favorably on the situation on the Korean peninsula.

The Soviet Union announced on Monday the death of 74-year-old President Chernenko and named Gorbachev to replace him as Communist Party chief.

Another diplomatic source here said that if South Korea pursues more positive diplomatic policies toward the Soviet Union, the communist giant might itself respond in a way different from the past. However, there will be no changes in basic relations between Moscow and Pyongyang because Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko will direct Soviet foreign policy despite the power transfer, the source said.

DJP'S NO TAE-U ON CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION

SK111215 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 1000 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] DJP Chairman No Tae-u said that there can never be a constitutional revision to elect the president directly during an incumbent president's term in office in order to protect the constitutional government supported by the absolute majority of the people and that he will persuade the opposition parties to understand the party's position during the 12th National Assembly session. He revealed this in an interview with reporters of foreign news agencies, including AP and REUTER, this morning at DJP headquarters. He added that this does mean, however, that the DJP will not revise the Constitution to elect the president directly.

Answering a question on his willingness to arrange an interview between President Chon Tu-hwan and Kim Tae-chung and Kim Yong-sam, Chairman No Tae-u said that in terms of political common sense, it is reasonable for a head of state to conduct dialogue with opposition leaders if they are official leaders, but that it is a personal matter for a president to meet opposition leaders in a personal capacity, even if they were formerly leaders. Chairman No Tae-u said that Kim Tae-chung's rehabilitation and subsequent measures are not a matter for him to discuss, but a judiciary one.

In connection with the campus issue in the new semester, he said that it is necessary to make joint efforts to ease a sense of incongruity between generations and discord between classes because various complex elements are involved in this phenomenon as our country is in the process of development, as was seen in the past in Japan and Singapore.

DKP TO DISCUSS PARTY MERGER AFTER CONVENTION

SK120032 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 12 Mar 85 p 1

[Text] The Democratic Korea Party yesterday reaffirmed that the new leadership to be elected during the party's March 29-30 national convention will be empowered to deal with the possible merger of opposition parties.

The decision came in the fifth meeting of the party's convention organizing committee, which serves as a seven-member interim leadership. It dismissed the demand by the party's five two-term lawmakers-elect that a merger promotion body be set up before the convention.

The five, including Ho Kyong-ku, Yu Chun-sang and party spokesman Mok Yo-sang, have also said they would join the Council for the Promotion of Democracy (CPD) "to take the lead in creating an atmosphere facilitating the proposed merger." The council is led by Kim Yong-sam and Kim Tae-chung.

Opposition Leaders Comment

SK120909 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 10 Mar 85 p 3

[From "Political Scene" column]

[Text] Kim Tae-chung and Kim Yong-sam, on 9 March, were respectively called on by DKP lawmakers Mok Yo-sang, Yi Yong-chun, So Chong-won, Yi Sok-yong, and Ho Kyong-ku, and were asked for advice on the question of merging the opposition political parties. Both of them acknowledged the inevitability of merger, but expressed different opinions on its methods.

Kim Tae-chung said: There will be problems such as the question of electoral districts. However, the question of electoral districts can be settled by revising the election law. In seeking merger, the New Korea Democratic Party [NKDP] should exercise hegemony. However, a due consideration should also be given to the DKP.

Kim Yong-sam said: Hitting the back of one's head in a tricky way is a political operation. Therefore, merger can easily be achieved when the interest of the general public, instead of personal interest, is sought. Merger is impossible, if everyone desires to become national assemblyman. All concerned should know that the sooner, the better, if something good is to be done.

Meanwhile, Kim Yong-sam, on the same day, invited Kim Sang-hyon, Kim Yun-sik, Kim Tok-yong, and four others of the Council for Promotion of Democracy, who have become free by the final lifting of the political ban, to the luncheon he arranged at the Diplomats Club. On the occasion, Kim Yong-sam said: The delay of my meeting with Kim Tae-chung is not because we have different opinions but because I desire that he should have time to meet more people after being abroad for so long. Kim added that he will meet Kim Tae-chung some time next week, and discuss the overall political situation with him.

KIM TAE-CHUNG CALL FOR 4-WAY TALKS STILL VALID

SK111002 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 11 Mar 85 p 1

[Report by correspondent Kim Hyon-ik from Suanbo]

[Text] Noting that he is willing to meet President Chon Tu-hwan at any time to discuss the situation, Kim Tae-chung maintained on 11 March that the government will pay a dear price if it ignores the will of the people who aspire for the rehabilitation of democracy.

In a meeting with this reporter, Kim, who went to Suanbo to relax on 10 March, said that the proposal he made in the United States for 4-way talks between President Chon Tu-hwan, Kim Yong-sam, Kim Chong-pil, and himself is still in effect. He further called on the government to respond to his 4-way talks proposal for the successful holding of North-South dialogue and the Olympics as well as for political stability, which is direly needed.

Noting that the issue of the restoration of the freedom of choice to the people in national government, among other things, should be discussed in the 4-way talks, Kim said that the restoration of freedom of the press, the realization of free elections and local autonomy, direct presidential election, the guarantee of democratic rights for workers and the campus, and other things should be attained in order to restore freedom of choice.

He explained that he included Kim Chong-pil in the 4-way talks because he had been banned by the present regime and represents a large segment of former Democratic Republican Party forces.

Saying that he would never beg for dialogue but that he has a firm belief that dialogue is a dire necessity, he expressed his hopes for a democratic and peaceful solution of all problems.

CHON GIVES SPEECH IN OBSERVATION OF LABOR DAY

SK111056 Seoul YONHAP in English 1050 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Seoul, March 11 (YONHAP) -- South Korean President Chon Tu-hwan Monday emphasized the importance of dialogue between labor and management in solving disputes. The problems of workers must be resolved through consultations between labor and management, Chon said, because workers depend on the prosperity of businesses for job security and improved standards of living. The president's remarks came at a luncheon meeting Monday with several outstanding workers who had received awards on Sunday - Korea's Labor Day.

The government is taking every step possible to narrow the gap in wages that results from different educational backgrounds, to bring working people into the middle class of society and to improve the welfare of working people, Chon said. "Workers must stand in the vanguard of a pan-national march toward prosperity in the 21st century, Chon said.

The foundation of Korea's remarkable economic growth has been close cooperation between labor and management and the use of restraint by workers in their demand for wage hikes, Chon said. The results have been consumer price stability, reduction in production costs and enhanced competitiveness of Korean industries on the international scene, he added.

## Garment Workers Demonstration

SK120045 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 12 Mar 85 p 8

[Text] Some 800 workers affiliated with the Chonggye Garment Labor Union and the Urban Industrial Mission staged a demonstration for half an hour Sunday night at the Hongje Catholic Church after holding a mass on the occasion of Workers' Day. They attempted to push their way out of the church, shouting anti-government slogans after the services but were halted by police restraint. Father Daniel Chi Hak-sun, Assemblyman-elect Yi Chol, dissident Kye Hun-chae, and other dissidents participated in the mass. Five workers were apprehended for their parts in the demonstration but released with admonitions.

Meanwhile, Worker's Day was observed in a ceremony at the National Theater Sunday morning with the attendance of Labor Minister Cho Chol-kwon; Kim Tong-in, president of the Federation of Korean Trade Union, [FKTU] and about 2,000 other persons. In the ceremony sponsored by the FKTU, 608 workers and employers were decorated with various citations in recognition of their contribution to industrial development.

## Statement Demands Rights

SK110107 Seoul YONHAP in English 0055 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Seoul, March 11 (YONHAP) -- South Korean Labor Affairs Minister Cho Chol-kwon said Sunday that the government will try hard to expand real income and employment opportunities for all Korean workers through welfare promotion and employment stabilization.

Addressing a ceremony commemorating Sunday's 1985 Worker's Day, the minister stressed that labor and management should coexist in a cooperative, not conflicting, environment. Cho awarded 608 workers medals for merit as well as decorations and citations on behalf of the government. Seoul City Mayor Yom Po-hyon, Kim Tong-in, chairman of the Korea Labor Union, and 16 other union leaders attended the ceremony along with about 2,000 citizens. Similar ceremonies were held in 13 cities across the country.

Meanwhile, the International Human Rights League of Korea said in a statement issued Saturday that the stable livelihood and rights of workers should be made a top national priority because they ultimately work toward the promotion of the public well-being. The league called for a minimum wage system to eliminate the low wage sector and for the improvement of working conditions at workplaces so as to avert industrial accidents.

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS CLASH WITH RIOT POLICE

OW111231 Tokyo KYODO in English 1026 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Seoul, March 11 KYODO -- About 2,000 Korea university students threw stones at police here Monday during a protest against President Kim Chun-yop's unexpected resignation. The hour-long clash brought riot police to near the university's front gate as the students demonstrated after adopting a resolution demanding the retraction of Kim's resignation. The resignation came suddenly towards the end of February although Kim still had 18 months before his term expired, and the students said that he must have resigned under government pressure.



FINANCE MINISTRY ANNOUNCES 1984 BUDGET SURPLUS

SK111223 Seoul YONHAP in English 1218 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Seoul, March 11 (YONHAP) -- The South Korean Government last year registered a 756.8 billion-won (900.9 million U.S. dollars: one dollar is worth about 840 won) budget surplus, the Finance Ministry announced Monday. The surplus resulted from 390 billion won in excess tax collections, 100 billion won in the reduction of government expenditures and 260.3 billion won carried forward to the 1985 balance.

Revenues totaled 11.8 trillion won last year, while expenditures slightly exceeded the 11 trillion won last year, while expenditures slightly exceeded the 11 trillion mark, according to the final tally on the government's 1984 budget.

JOINT OIL DRILLING PROJECT TO BEGIN WITH JAPAN

SK120107 Seoul YONHAP in English 0029 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] Seoul, March 12 (OANA-YONHAP) -- South Korea and Japan have agreed to begin a joint oil drilling project along the continental shelf on May 1, the Energy and Resources Ministry announced here Tuesday. Concessionaires from the two countries will drill two wildcat wells, in May and July, in the seventh and eighth subzones of the continental shelf's seventh mining block, an official said. The agreement was reached at the fifth meeting of the Korean-Japanese Joint Commission for the Development of the Continental Shelf, held in Tokyo March 6-7.

Drilling in the eighth and seventh subzones will begin on May 1, and July 18, respectively, the official said. Each of the two projects will continue for about 60 days. The seventh and eighth subzones are located about 450 kilometers south of Cheju, Korea's southernmost island. Korea has already chosen Ko-Am of the United States as its concessionaire in the drilling projects. Japan has selected the Nippon Oil Co. for the seventh subzone and the Daikoku Petroleum Co. for the eighth subzones. The joint project is expected to cost about 20 million U.S. dollars, and the concessionaires will jointly bear all expenses.

Korea and Japan conducted a joint seismic survey over 900 linear kilometers in the seventh mining block in 1983. In 1974, they had signed an agreement to jointly develop oil and other submarine mineral resources in the 95,000 square kilometers along the southern part of the continental shelf claimed by both countries. Several Korean oil technicians will participate in the offshore projects to learn about drilling technology, sources said.



HENG SAMRIN, DELEGATION LEAVE FOR MOSCOW

BK120558 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0528 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] Phnom Penh, 12 Mar (SPK) -- A high-ranking Cambodian party and state delegation led by Heng Samrin, general secretary of the KPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State, left Phnom Penh this morning for Moscow to attend the funeral of Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The delegation, also including Khang Samrin, member of the KPRP Central Committee Secretariat and minister of the interior; and Hor Nam Hong, ambassador to the USSR, was seen off [sentence as received].

REPORTAGE ON FALL OF TA TUM TO SRV FORCES

BK120105 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 12 Mar pp 1, 3

[Text] Vietnamese forces yesterday overran Ta Tum, the last of the major Khmer resistance strongholds near the Thai-Kampuchean border, following intensive artillery and human wave attacks, Thai military sources said last night.

A Sihanoukist source, however, said that the National Sihanoukist Army (ANS) command ordered the evacuation of Ta Tum at about 9 a.m. yesterday after the camp, which came under Vietnamese attacks since last Tuesday, sustained a "very heavy" artillery and chemical shell barrage since 3 a.m. which was followed by suicidal human wave assaults from all directions.

A press release issued last night by the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful and Cooperative Cambodia] in Bangkok said that the general staff of the ANS, in view of the situation, and anxious to preserve the safety of their troops, decided to move to another position. "They decided it was the most important of all to protect the soldiers and equipment," the statement said. It added that the withdrawal was conducted in an orderly fashion. "The Vietnamese found nothing but an empty camp, while some of our commandos were sent immediately to operate behind the enemy, disrupting their lines of supply." "It was never the intention of the general staff of the ANS to fight for Ta Tum at all costs. But it was important to demonstrate to the world the courage, determination and will of our soldiers," according to the statement.

Wan Lid, A Sihanoukist fighter told a BANGKOK POST reporter near the border in Surin yesterday that before the infantry assaults, Vietnamese gunners fired several shells which emitted yellowish smoke into Ta Tum. He said that the gas caused eye irritations, dizziness and vomiting among Sihanoukist defenders who were exposed to the gas. He also claimed that many Vietnamese soldiers involved in the first assault on the camp were seen wearing gas masks. The source added that the Vietnamese had also used the chemical in attacks on strategic Hills 361 and 424 in Bua Chet Subdistrict of Surin. Chemical experts from the American Embassy were yesterday sent to the border in Surin to investigate the Vietnamese use of gas.

A field resistance source admitted that their first defence line was penetrated by the Vietnamese at about 7 a.m. after the resistance fighters were forced to pull back because of the sustained artillery and gas attacks. Informed resistance sources said that the Vietnamese had received between 2,000-3,000 fresh troops, probably from the 5th Division, and more munitions before yesterday's decisive onslaught on Ta Tum.

Reliable sources estimated Vietnamese casualties since last Tuesday at about 500 killed and several hundred more wounded. Over 30 Sihanoukist soldiers were killed and about 200 wounded -- most of them are being treated at a field hospital set up at a temple in Sangkha District of Surin by the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Informed sources said that the Vietnamese had also managed to capture Hill 400 and Hill 424, but insisted that it was just a tactical pullback in order to allow Thai fighter bombers to carry out air strikes against intruding Vietnamese forces. Thai military sources said that Thai gunners retaliated and traded artillery fire with the Vietnamese after Thai troops entrenched on Hills 400, 361 and 424 came under heavy artillery bombardment early yesterday morning. Thai fighter bombers also conducted air strikes against the intruding Vietnamese yesterday morning. Several Thai soldiers were killed or wounded by shellfire yesterday, but no details were available.

Col Phopsuk Sutthanan, a member of the Thai Army General Staff, told a press conference yesterday that 20 Thai troopers were wounded by shellfire last Saturday when the Vietnamese pounded Hills 361 and 424. Three more Thai soldiers were wounded by Vietnamese shelling on Sunday, he added. One soldier died and another was wounded when they detonated a landmine near Chong Chon Pass, Surin Province. The colonel said that Vietnamese shelling had forced Thai authorities to move some 32,000 Khmer refugees from Ta Tum deeper into Thai territory on Sunday.

An informed source said last night that Prince Norodom Sihanouk, president of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea, may visit Surin today to attend the funeral of one of his top commanders, Lt-Gen King Men, who was killed by Vietnamese shellfire on Sunday.

While Ta Tum came under artillery shelling Sunday night, Vietnamese gunners in another front also pounded the Khmer People's National Liberation Front's camps at Ritthisen (Formerly Nong Chan) and Prey Chan (formerly Nong Chan) for about one hour.

#### Guerrilla Leader on Attack

HK111500 Hong Kong AFP in English 1425 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Tet Kirin Udom, Thailand, March 11 (AFP) -- The Vietnamese Army today overran the last major resistance base in northern Cambodia, and captured two strategic hills in Thai territory, the Thai Army and guerrillas said. The crushing Vietnamese artillery-backed ground assault forced thousands of Cambodian guerrillas into Thailand, they said.

Vietnamese gunners saturated the Ta Tum base on the Thai border with more than 1,000 artillery shells and toxic gas rockets in just over an hour early today, said guerrilla Captain Mom Khom, 35. He said that as the shells and rockets fell, several thousand Vietnamese commandos scaled steep cliffs on the base's east and west flanks, circling around into Thailand in a rear-guard assault that trapped hundreds of fleeing guerrillas in cross-fire. Captain Khom, treated at a Red Cross base here for shrapnel wounds, said all the guerrillas loyal to resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk had fled the base by 07:30 am (0030 GMT), leaving it under total Vietnamese control.

The Thai Army said in a Bangkok press conference that Thai jet fighters carried out air strikes against Vietnamese positions at around 10:00 am near two hills to the north of the Ta Tum base. An Army spokesman said the air strikes were an attempt to dislodge an estimated 1,200 Vietnamese troops entrenched on Thai territory, several kilometers east of the Ta Tum base.

Captain Khom said the 4,000 guerrillas defending the Ta Tum base were scattered by almost non-stop artillery hits inside the camp and were overcome by hundreds of gas rockets that caused choking, nausea and unconsciousness. He said the guerrillas fled in all directions before finding a passage out of the camp. "The air became filled with gas," he told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE here. "We were forced to retreat." He said that once the camp was saturated with artillery and gas, cordons of Vietnamese infantry who had evidently scaled the walls of the cliff-top base during the shelling, swept through the camp from the east and west, later coming through from Thailand to the north.

Thai tanks and artillery struck hard at the intruding Vietnamese during the attack, but were unable to push back what he said were more than 1,000 Vietnamese troops flooding over the border in the darkness. He said the guerrillas fled the Ta Tum base into Thailand through a narrow passage on the western flank of the camp, taking heavy Vietnamese ground fire from the north and south. Captain Khom could not estimate guerrilla casualties, but the International Committee of the Red Cross here said it had treated about 150 injuries, transferring the most serious to a field hospital further north. Captain Khom said the toxic gas rockets fired by the multi-launcher known as the "Stalin's Organs", interspersed with gas-loaded 130 mm artillery shells.

Western observers and international agency workers near the border said they detected the presence of gas during the attack. But Red Cross medical workers here said they could not confirm that there were gas-caused injuries.

The Ta Tum base was the last military encampment held on the Thai border by the Khmer resistance fighting an estimated 150,000 to 170,000 Vietnamese troops in Cambodia since 1979. The resistance is armed mainly by China and receives political support from Thailand and a number of pro-Western countries. Its coalition government is recognised by the United Nations. Captain Khom said the Vietnamese infantry assault on Ta Tum lasted about two hours. "By 7:30 am, it was finished," he said. "We were out of the camp, and the Vietnamese were in control."

#### FIGHTING NEAR PREY CHAN, RITTHISEN REPORTED

BK11021 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 11 Mar 85 p 32

[Text] Aranyaprathet -- Fighting raged between Vietnamese troops and Khmer resistance forces close to Prey Chan and Ritthisen last night, according to a field report this morning. The report said Vietnam began shelling the two sites under the command of Chea Chhut and Liew Ne respectively with 105 mm artillery and mortars from 9 p.m. to 10.30 p.m. but casualties on both sides were not known.

The latest attack in the area near the two encampments came after a joint guerrilla force from the two Khmer resistance camps ambushed a Vietnamese base at Soriya and Phum Soeng, some ten kilometres to the east. The Khmer source claimed they had killed 17 Vietnamese soldiers and wounded many of them. The source said the Khmer resistance forces had put up a strong resistance and had fired back with recoilless guns, mortars and grenade launchers.

Another field report said that about 1,500 Heng Samrin troops from the fourth division have moved close to the two encampments about three kilometres from the Thai border and there were indications that they might attack Prey Chan and Ritthisen soon. The report said that about 22,000 Khmer civilians at Site 6 at Ban Ang tried to move deeper into Thailand but were pushed back to the border.

HUN SEN ON MEETING WITH AUSTRALIA'S HAYDEN

BK121235 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1206 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK March 12 -- Premier Hun Sen Tuesday morning said that there were two possibilities for the settlement of the Kampuchean problem: either the impasse would be solved through negotiations or it would resolve by itself.

In a meeting with the local press in Phnom Penh, Hun Sen who is also foreign minister, said he has told Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden during a meeting in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, last Friday that a negotiated settlement would have to be based on six points: 1 -- The political and military elimination of the Pol Pot clique to ensure the Kampuchean people's right to live without the threat of genocide; 2 -- The complete withdrawal of Vietnamese troops; 3 -- The achievement of national union and the conduct of free elections under international supervision; 4 -- The creation of a Southeast Asia of peace and stability in which states of different social systems would coexist peacefully without the use of one country's territory against another; 5 -- The cessation of all interference by countries from outside the region; and 6 -- The establishment of a form of international guarantee and supervision to ensure the implementation of agreements.

Hun Sen said the first three points were the most important and the elections could be held immediately if Pol Pot was eliminated. In this regard, Hun Sen explained to Bill Hayden the policy of leniency of the People's Republic of Kampuchea regarding misled people. Those who dissociate themselves from Pol Pot and respect the P.R.K. Constitution will be allowed to run for elections, Hun Sen said.

Hun Sen also told Bill Hayden that now was the moment for all parties concerned, with the exception of the Pol Pot clique, to sit down together to talk. Otherwise, he affirmed, the Kampuchean problem will be resolved by developments within Kampuchea, meaning the elimination of the Pol Pot clique and the subsequent withdrawal of the Vietnamese forces.

Hun Sen told the press that Bill Hayden had expressed satisfaction with the meeting because it helped him better understand the position of the P.R.K. Government, its policy of leniency and the difficulties encountered by the Kampuchean people during the war and under Pol Pot. Bill Hayden said it was also the view of the Australian Government that the Pol Pot clique must be eliminated and that the Kampuchean problem must be settled without the participation of that clique. Hun Sen also explained to Bill Hayden that Thailand's charges of Vietnamese intrusion were only a pretext for blocking dialogue. He stressed the Kampuchean people's right to pursue remnants of the Pol Pot clique into so-called "liberated zones of Democratic Kampuchea." At the same time, the Kampuchean people respected Thailand's sovereignty and territorial integrity, Hun Sen affirmed.



GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES DEATH OF SOVIET LEADER

BK120346 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Announcement of LPRP Central Committee, SPC, and Council of Ministers of LPDR on the death of Soviet leader Chernenko issued 11 March -- read by announcer]

[Text] It is with utmost grief that the LPRP Central Committee and the SPC and the LPDR Council of Ministers informs all party cadres and members, combatants, and people of all tribes throughout the country that Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, passed away in Moscow at 1920 on 10 March 1985.

Comrade Konstantin Chernenko was an outstanding leader of the Soviet Communist Party and state, an excellent son of the Soviet people, a faithful continuator of the great cause of Lenin, a gallant activist of the international communist and workers movement, and a determined fighter for peace, friendship, and international cooperation. Comrade Konstantin Chernenko was a close friend of the Lao people. He always paid attention to developing the solidarity and cooperation between the Soviet and Lao parties, states, and peoples and to making them fruitful at all times.

The death of Comrade Konstantin Chernenko is a great loss to the Soviet party, state, and people as well as to communists in the socialist countries and to all progressive people throughout the world. It is also a great loss to our Lao communists and people. The name of Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko will be engraved forever in the hearts of the Lao people of all tribes.

[Dated] Vientiane, 11 March 1985

Leaders Send Condolences

BK120300 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Message of condolences from Kaysone Phomvihane, general secretary of LPRP Central Committee and chairman of LPDR Council of Ministers: and Souphanouvong, president of state and chairman of SPC of LPDR, to CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the USSR Council of Ministers issued on 11 March -- read by announcer]

[Text] We are deeply grieved upon receiving news about the death of Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. On behalf of the LPRP Central Committee the SPC and the LPDR Council of Ministers of the LPDR, and all Lao people, we would like to express our deep sorrow to you, comrades, and to the fraternal Soviet communists and people.

Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko was an outstanding leader of the Soviet party and state, an excellent son of the Soviet people, a faithful continuator of the great cause of Lenin, a gallant activist of the international communist and workers movement, and a determined fighter for peace, friendship, and international cooperation. For more than half a century Comrade Konstantin Chernenko devoted himself -- physically and mentally; his wisdom and capabilities -- to the revolutionary cause of the Soviet people. The comrade assumed many important responsibilities of the party and state at various levels until he was elected general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko clearly displayed his faith in the ideals of communism and ardently defended the purity of Marxism-Leninism throughout the period of his assumption of the esteemed positions.

He tirelessly made significant contributions to enhancing the strength of the USSR's economy and national defense, strengthening the highly developed socialist system, and incessantly raising the material and cultural life of the Soviet people.

Adhering to Leninist foreign policy, he made great contributions to strengthening the friendship and cohesion of the socialist community in the struggle for peace and security of all nations so as to check the threat of nuclear war.

Concerning the LPDR, Comrade Chernenko always paid attention to developing and making the solidarity and cooperation between the Soviet and Lao parties, states, and peoples fruitful.

Comrade Chernenko's death is a great loss to the Soviet party, state, and people as well as to the communists of the socialist countries and all progressive mankind throughout the world. It is also a great loss to our Lao Communists and people. The Lao party, state, and people will remember forever the virtues of Comrade Chernenko.

During this mourning period for Comrade Konstantin Chernenko, on behalf of the LPRP Central Committee, the SPC and the LPDR Council of Ministers, and the Lao people, we would like to express our condolences to and share our sorrow with you, comrades, and with the bereaved family and relatives of the late Comrade Konstantin Chernenko. We firmly believe that the great fraternal Soviet people, who were the first people to follow the socialist path, and under the correct and clear-sighted leadership of the Marxist-Leninist CPSU, will transform their sorrow into material strength so as to march forward to score yet greater achievements in implementing the resolutions adopted at the 26th CPSU Congress and in making preparations for convening the 27th party congress to attain complete victory for the highly-developed socialism and communism, for the happiness and wealth of the Soviet people, and for the cause of peace and security in the world.

[Dated] Vientiane, 11 March 1985

[Signed] Kaysone Phomvihane, general secretary of the LPRP Central Committee and chairman of the LPDR Council of Ministers;

Souphanouvong, president of the LPDR and chairman of the SPC of the LPDR

#### Memorial Service Planned

BK120350 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Resolution adopted by LPRP Central Committee, SPC, and LPRP Council of Ministers on nationwide memorial service on death of Konstantin Chernenko issued on 11 March read by announcer]

[Text] With utmost grief over the demise of Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, in memory of his highly esteemed virtues, and to express the profound respect and affection and the fond memory of our party, state, and people for Comrade Konstantin Chernenko, sharing the sorrow of the fraternal Soviet People, the LPRP Central Committee, the SPC, and the LPDR Council of Ministers have decided:



1. To organize a nationwide memorial service for Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko;
2. To instruct all offices and organizations of the party and state and all mass organizations throughout the country, and Lao embassies and missions in foreign countries to fly the flag at half-mast for 3 days between 11 and 13 March 1985; and
3. To suspend all forms of literary and artistic shows and entertainment for 3 days.

During this mourning period, our entire party, Army, and people must increase unity and strengthen our solidarity and all-round cooperation with the Soviet Union and the other fraternal countries in the socialist community. We must constantly heighten vigilance, be determined to smash all enemy schemes, and actively fulfill and translate into reality all tasks of the party and state in order to score yet greater victories for our tasks of national defense and socialist construction.

[Dated] Vientiane, 11 March 1985

SOUPHANOUVONG RECEIVES NEW AMBASSADOR TO USSR

BK111432 Vientiane KPL in English 0906 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Vientiane, March 11 (OANA-KPL) -- Souphanouvong, Political Bureau member of the LPRP CC, president of the Republic and of the People's Supreme Assembly, on March 9 handed a credential letter over to the new Lao ambassador to the Soviet Union, Thongsavat Khaikhamphithoun, member of the KPRP CC. The Lao president gave some personal advice to the new ambassador to the Soviet Union, asking him to do his best to fulfill his mission of consolidating the fraternal friendship and all-round cooperation between the parties, governments and peoples of the two countries.

COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH UNESCO SIGNED

BK111328 Vientiane KPL in English 0908 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Vientiane, March 11 (OANA-KPL) -- Souphanouvong, president of the Republic, the People's Supreme Assembly of the Lao PDR, received here on March 9, A.M. M'Bow, general director of UNESCO, and his delegation on a visit to Laos. President Souphanouvong expressed thanks to UNESCO for its constant support to Laos.

On the morning of the same day, a memorandum on cooperation between the Lao Government and UNESCO was signed here. The signatories were Prof. Bountiam Phitsamai, acting-minister of education and president of the Lao UNESCO committee, and A.M. M'Bow, director general of UNESCO. Among many projects to be funded by UNESCO in Laos are: The construction of a branch of the teachers' college in the southern Savannakhet Province, the introduction of organic gas for use at the college, the enlargement of the state polytechnic in Vientiane, the construction of a foreign languages university, a traditional art school, a mass-media school, the restoration of some historical sites and the setting up of a scientific and technical research center.

Present at the signing ceremony were Pheli Khounlaleuk, deputy minister of culture, and vice president of the Lao UNESCO committee, and Per Hakam Janvid, UN representative to Laos. The UNESCO delegation left here on the afternoon of March 9.

REPORTAGE ON CHINESE PRESIDENT LI'S VISIT

BK110907 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 11 Mar 85 pp 1, 2

[Excerpts] Chinese President Li Xiannian arrived here this morning for a five-day state visit to the warmest official reception and tightest security every accorded a visiting dignitary.

In his arrival statement, President Li recalled the close and friendly relations that both countries and people had forged over the past years. "In the past decade since the establishment of Sino-Thai diplomatic ties, the traditional friendship between our two peoples and the friendly relations and co-operation between our two countries have developed rapidly in all fields which is to our great satisfaction." He said that his visit was motivated by the desire to further enhance the understanding and friendship between our two people, promote the development of existing Sino-Thai friendly relations and co-operation and benefits from the valuable experiences of the Thai people have gained in the cause of building up their countries. He added that he was convinced that with the thoughtful arrangement of his hospitable host, his visit would surely be crowned with success.

Meets With Prem;

BK120734 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] At 1030, PRC President Li Xiannian and his delegation held official consultations with Prime Minister General Prem Tinsulanon at Government House. Also present at the meeting were Deputy Prime Minister General Prachuap Suntharangkun and Phichai Rattakun, the foreign minister, and the commerce minister. On this occasion both sides signed two agreements -- the agreement on investment promotion and protection and the agreement on establishment of the joint committee for economic cooperation.

At about 0850 today Lin Jiamei, the PRC president's wife, visited the Thai Red Cross. She was welcomed there by Princess Sirinthon, president of the Thai Red Cross Council. She was shown various facilities of the Thai Red Cross and given a briefing on its operations. The PRC president's wife donated \$1 million to the Thai Red Cross for use in assisting people affected by the Thai-Cambodian border situation and Indochinese refugees.

Talks Held

BK121043 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 12 Mar 85 p 2

[Text] Chinese President Li Xiannian this morning voiced strong support for Thailand over the situation at the Thai-Kampuchean border. The Chinese president's support came after almost two hours of talks held at Government House between a 17-member Chinese delegation and an 18-man Thai team led by Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon, according to Foreign Ministry Spokesman Sawanit Khongsiri.

Those participating in the talks, which focussed mainly on the Thai-Kampuchean border situation, included Deputy Prime Minister Gen Prachuap Suntharangkun, Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila and Commerce Minister Koson Krairoek. Top Thai military officers led by Army Chief-of-Staff Gen Bachop Bunnak and National Security Council Secretary-General Sqdn Ldr Prasong Sunsiri were also present during the talks.

AIR FORCE MOUNTS ATTACKS ON SRV POSITIONS

BK121137 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 12 Mar 85 p 32

[Text] Thailand has rushed tank-backed troop reinforcements to the Surin border as tension ran high with Thai jets strafing Vietnamese forces occupying two strategic hills in the area, military sources reported this morning.

Deputy Defence Minister ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Phaniang Kantarat said the reinforcements from the Second Army Region were being sent to the most sensitive locations but gave no further details. An informed military source told the WORLD that Thailand was mounting air strikes as well as artillery attacks on several hundred Vietnamese soldiers occupying Hills 400 and 424 inside Surin Province. The Thai operation is taking place one day after Vietnam overran the nearby Sihanoukist base at Ta Tum.

Military sources said Thai troops pulled back from the hills overlooking Ta Tum yesterday in order to enable the Royal Thai Air Force to mount aerial attacks. The sources said Thai F5-E's from Udon Airbase were involved in the action to recapture the strategic hills and the Vietnamese were retaliating to the action with artillery barrages. Casualties on the Thai side were not known but the Vietnamese were believed to have suffered severe casualties as a result of the air strikes and artillery attacks.

Speaking to reporters in Bangkok, ACM Phaniang said he believed the air strikes had badly hampered the Vietnamese. Asked if the heavy attack on Ta Tum was related to the arrival in Thailand yesterday of Chinese President Li Xiannian, he said he believed it was a coincidence. Field reports said Ta Tum fell under fierce artillery and gas attacks by Vietnamese forces. Field military sources said Thailand remained in control of Hill 361 and yesterday's early morning battle over the hill resulted in as many as about 1,000 Vietnamese soldiers killed. The sources added that about 200 Vietnamese troops were killed in a clash with Sihanoukist forces at 3:45 a.m. yesterday at Hill 361. A Sihanoukist source admitted that the first defence line of Ta Tum was penetrated by the Vietnamese at 7 a.m. The National Sihanoukist Army (ANS) later ordered the camp abandoned and moved to another position. About 20 Sihanoukist soldiers were killed and another 200 wounded while the Vietnamese suffered greater losses, the source said.

The International Committee of the Red Cross in Bangkok said 118 Sihanoukist soldiers were receiving treatment at a field hospital in Tambon Ta Tum of Sangkha District in Surin.

Meanwhile, south of Aranyaprathet, Vietnamese gunners this morning hit back at Khmer Rouge units trying to harass their positions in the Phnom Malai. The artillery barrages beginning at about 9 a.m., aimed at units sniping at Phnom Mak Hoeun, Phnom Malai and Highway 502, military sources said.

Further north, at Site 6 in Ta Phraya, some 22,000 Kampuchean refugees who recently crossed into Thailand prepared to flee again yesterday amid fears of an imminent attack on the camp, an official source said. According to the source, Hanoi had mobilised two regiments of Heng Samrin troops comprising 1,500 men equipped with eight T-54 tanks and deployed them opposite Prey Chan and Ritthisen. The development sparked fears that Hanoi might launch a new offensive against the Khmer People Liberation Front (KPNLF) of Son Sann, the source said.

In a related development, Vietnamese troops have begun digging a ditch -- measuring 80 centimetres wide and 120 centimetres deep -- parallel to the Thai border from Ban Pa Rai to Sanlo Cha-ngan, the source said. The purpose of such a long ditch, located at between three to four kilometres east of Thailand, was unknown.

ATHIT DEPARTS ON OFFICIAL VISIT TO FRANCE

BK090215 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 9 Mar 85 p 3

[Text] Supreme Commander and Army Commander-in-Chief General Athit Kamlang-ek left last night by Thai Airways International for France for a visit at the invitation of the French Government. Accompanied by a handful of close aides, the general will observe military hardware and military affairs in France before flying to the United States for a short trip before returning to Bangkok on March 16.

DISCUSSIONS ON F-16A PURCHASE SAID 'REVIVED'

BK110212 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 11 Mar 85 p 2

[Text] Discussions on the Royal Thai Air Force's [RTAF] proposal to buy a squadron of expensive F-16A jets have been revived in the wake of reports that an official request for the purchase has been sent from Thailand to the White House in Washington.

After a "lull," the issue has again taken on a new twist with the RTAF Commander-in-Chief ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Praphan Thupatemi insisting during a recent television interview that Thailand is in real need of the advanced jets for national defence.

A senior RTAF officer said once Parliament reopens next month, some hectic lobbying is expected to take place with members of the House Military Affairs Committee chaired by Lt Col Sanan Khachonprasat who had earlier cast doubts on how Thailand could afford to buy the expensive fleet.

During a recent visit of a senior American official who held talks with Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon, it was stated: "The two governments are reviewing the issue, particularly in view of the timing and availability of foreign exchange (of Thailand)." The statement was interpreted then to mean that the issue was being shelved. But informed sources said that the issue has now been "activated" by the military who believe that the U.S. Congress appears ready to switch on the greenlight. "But the Thai Parliament is still against it," said a senior RTAF officer.

The baht devaluation in November has further eroded the chances of pursuing the matter since the cost of a squadron of F-16A's was jacked up considerably. However, it has been suggested that the number of planes to be bought under the current financial constraints could be cut down from the original plan of 20 down to 18 or even 12 if need be.

Finance Minister Sommai Huntrakun who had earlier strongly opposed the plan saying that the government could not afford it, was last week quoted as saying that if the purchase was made on a long-term credit basis, it might be feasible although the minister continued to cast doubts on the feasibility of the plan. Informed sources said that a new proposal was submitted to Washington "several weeks" ago to seek a review of the original request by the Defence Ministry to the Pentagon.



HIGH-RANKING SRV DEFECTOR ON SRV'S STRATEGY

BK120205 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 12 Mar 85 p 3

[Text] The current military offensive by Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea is aimed at driving the core of the Khmer resistance forces across the border to Thailand and wipe out remnants of resistance guerrillas on Kampuchean soil near the frontier within this year, according to a Vietnamese battalion commander who recently defected to the Thai military.

The battalion commander who surrendered on Feb 5 revealed that the current Vietnamese drive, codenamed "K-5 Operation," was divided into four phases covering 14 months from last November until December, this year.

According to classified military report obtained by THE NATION yesterday, the defector said that the four-phase plan was briefed by a Lt Le Luong, chief of the Logistics Division, during a meeting of about 30 senior military officers in his division on December 11, last year, at the division attached to the Department of Chiefs-of-Staff, the forward command of the Defense Ministry of Vietnam.

The first two phases of the operation cover the period from last November to June while the other two stages cover July-December, this year, according to the report. The Vietnamese troops are now believed to be moving on to the second phase of the plan.

The report quotes the defector as saying that the first phase of the plan calls for Vietnamese troops attacking Khmer resistance forces of all colours to pin down the guerrillas on the border and prevent them from penetrating into the interior of the country as well as obstructing the excavation of a strategic canal to run parallel to the frontier. The operations during the first phase are also aimed at preventing Khmer resistance forces from helping each other. The first phase of the plan also envisages Vietnamese troops capturing resistance border strongholds and establishing their presence to prevent the resistance from returning and making use of the bases again, if possible. Otherwise, the Vietnamese were to deploy troops near the border bases to keep military pressure on the resistance forces, according to the report.

The second phase of the plan calls for "violent campaigns" against Khmer resistance forces at every point along the border to drive most of the resistance guerrillas across the border into Thailand. After the resistance guerrillas have been pushed across the border, the Vietnamese will maintain troops along the border, the report says. The Vietnamese will in the third phase stage mop-up operations to wipe out remnants of Khmer guerrillas inside Kampuchea near the border.

The fourth and final step is for the Vietnamese to create security throughout the country, strengthen the rule by the Heng Samrin government, facilitate development efforts and turn the regime into an effective administration.

The report also observes that after the attack on the Sihanoukist stronghold at Ta Tum in Prasat Rovieng District in an area straddling Skam Reap and Oddar Meanchey Province opposite a Thai border village which is also named Ta Tum in Sangkha District of Surin Province, the Vietnamese are expected to move on to the Headquarters of the Khmer Rouge's Division 616 in Choam Khsan District of Preah Vihear Province and the headquarters of Division 912, also a Khmer Rouge force, situated in Alongweng District in an area between Seam Reap and Oddar Meanchey Province opposite Khun Han District of Sisaket Province.



Other Khmer Rouge strongholds which could come under Vietnamese onslaughts are the headquarters of Division 175 in Ratanakiri Province and the headquarters of Division 86 in Battambang Province, opposite Pong Namrong District of Chanthaburi Province, according to the report.

DAO SIAM SAYS PREM APPROVES ATHIT EXTENSION

BK111200 Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thai 7 Mar 85 p 2

[Text] Following our earlier report that there will be an extension of tenure for General Athit Kamlang-ek, supreme commander and Army commander in chief, for another year in recognition of his capability and suitability considering the present situation.

On 6 March the DAO SIAM correspondent learned from a source in the inner circle that General Prem Tinsulanon, prime minister and defense minister, has already signed the approval for the extension of Gen Athit's term as supreme commander and Army commander in chief for another year.

According to the source, the approval was signed on 5 March and afterwards Gen Prem invited Gen Athit for a get-together at his Sisao residence the same evening in order to inform the latter of the decision. The party was also held to extend congratulations to Gen Athit.

According to the report, the prime minister approved the extension because he considers Gen Athit a capable man who has been carrying out his official duty with a sense of honesty and loyalty to the nation. Also in view of the tense border situation, the prime minister deems that it is appropriate to approve the extension. As a result, it is certain that General Banchoo Bunnak, Army chief of staff, will be moved up as Armed Forces chief of staff with the salary of a field marshal.

Meanwhile, there was a report from the Interior Ministry that approval had been given for the extension of tenure for Chalong Kanlayanamit, director general of the Local Administration Department, whose 4-year term will expire on 4 April. The proposal for an extension for another year for Chalong will be forwarded to the Cabinet for approval soon. It is certain that the Cabinet will give its approval to the proposal as the director general of the Local Administration Department is a knowledgeable man with qualifications suitable for his current position.

FOREIGN MINISTER ON REFUGEES, SRV POSITION

BK090935 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1500 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Nineteen journalists from the United States and Europe are on a visit to Thailand to see themselves the situation of Kampuchean refugees along the Thai-Kampuchean border under the sponsorship of the UN High Commission for refugees. Today the journalists met with Thai Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila. Air Chief Marshal Sitthi's address to the news gathering regarding the refugees in Thailand and the situation in Kampuchea is substantially stated as follows:

[Begin recording] I wish to welcome, not welcome alone, but extend our warmest welcome to you all because what you are trying to do, you know, is for humanitarian purpose, and with your presence here I think it would help a lot to protect to the world at large about the refugees' problem, the burden that Thailand is facing at present.

I wish to tell you on behalf of our government that we have carried on about this humanitarian policy for accepting refugees from Indochina for the past many years now, not just after Kampuchea but even before that time since 1975, and actually I mean many hundreds of thousands have been crossing to our country. In fact the number of this is 629,772 refugees have been crossing to our country, and about 493,011 refugees have been resettled in various countries, particularly in the United States, France, Canada, Australia, and other countries, which we greatly appreciate. As you know, Thailand alone cannot bear all these burdens. With this help, we will maintain our policy to see that the refugees would be safe in our country.

At present, I think that we have, under the UNHCR alone, the total of which is 131,780 refugees -- 40,000 of them are Kampuchean, whereas 31,175 is Lao on the flat plain, whereas the Mong and the hilltribes about 55,000 and 5,449 refugees from Vietnam. But as a result of the current attacks on various border camps, we have accepted, now as a for Kampuchean [words indistinct]. A total recent number now is 220,391, but not including the ones who just came in recently. So, it would be more than 250,000 altogether. So as you can see right now...I wish that representatives from mass media and also from various circles -- we need help to help these refugees, to build shelters, to give medicine and food, to care for the wounded and sick. It is rather tragic to see them, you know.

I went to Khao i-Dang and saw some of those wounded civilian people. So this is a matter for the international community to look after them because we, Thailand, we maintain our policy because it's a right policy. We like to see some day that the Vietnamese will listen to the voice of, you know, world community -- to withdraw their troops Kampuchea and let the Kampucheans decide for themselves about their own destiny and also the system of their government and also the leadership of their country.

At present, I can tell you that though the camps at the border have been attacked, and many of them fell, but the fighting is going on in Kampuchea, deep inside Kampuchea, and that they will keep on and on. Vietnam only inflicted in the last dry season up to now only 5 percent of the total resistance fighters [as heard]. Now I think that their arms, ammunition, and equipment, their command and control are still intact. Of course, they try to build the roads, send [words indistinct] near our border, and they have tried to intimidate our people. They made intrusions and incursions into our territory many times. And we have sent word to the UN to circulate among the members. The recent attack is the most serious one that we have encountered. [end recording]

On Thailand's policy and (?brief) toward the Kampuchean problem, Air Chief Marshal Sithi addressed as follows:

[Begin recording] We Thailand, you know, we happen to be here for a number of years as independent country for a long history, you know, for more than 700 years. And we like to tell you that we belong to the free world, the democratic system, free market system. We can see that the Thai people adore the freedoms and just like your own people in various countries where you come from -- even France, the United States, England, and other countries. We share the same conviction and sympathy as yours. Especially, the Thai pay particular attention to the people who suffer from hardships.

As the foreign minister of Thailand, I can reassure you that our refugee policy will never change as long as our friends can help us. They think that there will be some day that these people [words indistinct] temporarily because these people like to go back to their country. Most of them. Few of them like to resettle elsewhere. So you don't have to worry as long as they can be safe here, and I think we are fighting on the right (?course). And now, proposal for political solution by ASEAN has been supported by.... [end recording]

Concerning Prince Sihanouk's proposal that the international conference on Kampuchea should be held, Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila gives his comment as follows:

[Begin recording] As for myself, I said well, Thailand at this moment we are not in the mood to talk to the Vietnamese. They keep on sending troops killing our people and further attack our people, and send, you know, their troops across at various points and try to intimidate our people. I will have to check from Mr Hayden what is the Vietnamese -- whether Vietnam themselves have rejected Sihanouk, you know they said Sihanouk is nobody. Before Vietnam said well we can accept national reconciliation between Sihanouk, Son Sann, Heng Samrin, excluding Pol Pot. The Pol Pot is past history now. Today it's the Kampuchean people. But its leader, Pham Van Dong, said I would not go to Bandung, you know, if Sihanouk is going there. If Sihanouk proposed international conference, who would come to the international conference? Only Sihanouk and ASEAN, without Vietnam, or what? So I have to reject that one because I said I have to study first. And besides those, we cannot go to conference from the point of weakness, you know. If Vietnam tries to, you know, encroach and impose their will upon us and try to send troops, attack and kill our people, I would not be in the mood to talk to it. That's all. [end recording]

TASS ANNOUNCEMENT ON CHERNENKO'S DEATH CITED

BK111534 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] According to the Soviet news agency TASS, today, 11 March, in Moscow, the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the USSR Council of Ministers officially announced the following:

The CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the USSR Council of Ministers announce with deep sorrow to the party and the entire Soviet people that Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, passed away at 1920 on 10 March 1985 after a grave illness.

The name of Comrade Chernenko, an outstanding activist of the Communist Party and state of the Soviet Union and a staunch fighter for the ideals of communism and peace, will remain forever in the hearts of the Soviet people and of the whole of progressive mankind.

LEADERS SEND MESSAGES TO USSR, ANNOUNCE MOURNING

Joint Condolence Message

OW11850 Hanoi VNA in English 1827 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 11 -- The Central Committee of the Communist Party, the National Assembly, the Council of State, and the Council of Ministers of Vietnam, today sent a joint message of condolences to the C.P.S.U. Central Committee, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, and the Council of Ministers of the Soviet Union over the demise of Comrade Konstantin U. Chernenko.

The message reads in full as follows:

"The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, the National Assembly, the Council of State, and the Council of Ministers of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and the entire communists and people of Vietnam learn with profound grief of the death of Comrade Konstantin U. Chernenko, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and president of the Presidium of the U.S.S.R. Supreme Soviet.

An outstanding activist of the Communist Party and state of the Soviet Union, Comrade Konstantin U. Chernenko has made great contributions to the charting and implementation of Leninist internal and external policies aimed at developing economy and culture and consolidating national defence of the Soviet Union, and strengthening the unity and solidarity among the countries in the socialist community and within the international communist and workers movements, and to the struggle for world peace and international security.

The death of Comrade K.U. Chernenko is a great loss not only to the party, state and people of the Soviet Union, but also to the whole socialist community, the international communist and workers' movement, and all peace-loving and progressive forces throughout the world.

With the departure of Konstantin U. Chernenko, the party, state and people of the Soviet Union lost an eminent leader loyal to the cause of great Lenin and the glorious Communist Party of the Soviet Union, and the world people lost a staunch fighter who tirelessly struggled for peace, security and international cooperation.

A great friend of the Vietnamese people, Comrade Konstantin U. Chernenko always rendered profound sentiments, precious support and assistance to the revolutionary cause of the Vietnamese people. He untiringly worked for the cause of strengthening and consolidating the great friendship, militant solidarity and allround cooperation between the parties and peoples of Vietnam and the Soviet Union.

With profound mourning for and deep gratitude to Comrade Konstantin U. Chernenko, we would like to extend our deepest condolences to the C.P.S.U. Central Committee, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, the Council of Ministers, the fraternal people of the Soviet Union, and his family. The Communist party, government and people of Vietnam pledge to do their best for the constant consolidation and development of the Vietnam-U.S.S.R. friendship and solidarity in the interests of the revolutionary cause of the two parties and peoples.

We are deeply convinced that to continue worthily Comrade Konstantin U. Chernenko's glorious cause, the C.P.S.U. and the Soviet Government will successfully implement the resolutions of the 26th C.P.S.U. Congress in preparations for the 27th C.P.S.U. Congress and achieve ever greater success in perfecting developed socialism in the Soviet Union and advancing the U.S.S.R. -- the bastion of world peace and revolution -- to communism, thus greatly contributing to the struggle for peace, national independence, democracy and socialism all over the world".

Communique Issued

OW111834 Hanoi VNA in English 1816 GMT 11 Mar 85

["Communique on Demise of Konstantin U. Chernenko" -- VNA headline]

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 11 -- The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, the National Assembly, the Council of State and the Council of Ministers of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam have issued a communique on the passing away of Konstantin U. Chernenko, general secretary of the C.P.S.U. Central Committee and President of the Presidium of the U.S.S.R. Supreme Soviet.

The communique reads in full as follows:

"With profound grief, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, the National Assembly, the Council of State, and the Council of Ministers of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, inform the entire party and people of Vietnam that Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and president of the Presidium of the U.S.S.R. Supreme Soviet, passed away at 19:20 hours on March 10, 1985 in Moscow.

"The name and the tireless activities of Comrade K.U. Chernenko are closely associated with the great achievements of the Soviet Union in developing the national economy, increasing the defense capability of the Soviet Union, and safeguarding world peace. Comrade K.U. Chernenko greatly cared for the consolidation of the unity and solidarity among the countries in the socialist community and of the international communist movement.



"Comrade Konstantin U. Chernenko reserved for our people warm sentiment of fraternal friendship, and wholeheartedly assisted our people in national construction and defense. The decease of Comrade Konstantin U. Chernenko is a great loss to the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Soviet people, to our entire party and people, and to the whole progressive human kind".

#### Mourning Period Set

OW111902 Hanoi VNA in English 1824 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 11 -- All public offices throughout the country are ordered to fly flags at half mast from March 12-13 in mourning for Konstantin U. Chernenko, general secretary of the C.P.S.U. Central Committee and president of the U.S.S.R. Supreme Soviet, who died in Moscow on March 10, says a decision made by the Vietnamese Council of Ministers today. The decision reads as follows:

"In memory of and mourning for Comrade Konstantin U. Chernenko, general secretary of the C.P.S.U. Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the U.S.S.R. Supreme Soviet, an outstanding successor of Lenin's great cause, a distinguished leader of the C.P.S.U. and the U.S.S.R. state, an (?eminent) activist of the communist and workers' movement, a tireless fighter for world peace and for the victory of socialism and communism, and a great and close friend of the Vietnamese people, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, the Council of State, and the Council of Ministers of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam decide: All public offices shall fly flags at half mast and all entertainments shall be adjourned from March 12-13".

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#### PARTY, STATE LEADERS PAY HOMAGE TO CHERNENKO

OW120815 Hanoi VNA in English 0801 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 12 -- A delegation of the Communist Party, the National Assembly, the Council of State and Council of Ministers, led by Le Duc Tho, Political Bureau member and secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, this morning paid its last homage to K.U. Chernenko, general-secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, at the Soviet Embassy in Hanoi.

The delegation included Vo Chi Cong, Political Bureau member and secretary of the party CC; Nguyen Huu Tho, vice-president of the State Council and chairman of the National Assembly; Nguyen Co Thach, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Party CC and foreign minister; Nguyen Lam, Le Quang Dao and Hoang Tung, secretaries of the party CC; Vo Nguyen Giap, member of the party CC and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Vu Quang, member of the party CC and head of the party CC's International Department.

The delegation's wreath bore the inscription: "Profound grief over the death of Comrade K. U. Chernenko".

Le Duc Tho, Vo Chi Cong and Nguyen Buu Tho put down the following in the mourners' book:

"Profound grief over the death of Comrade K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, and outstanding leader of the Soviet party and state, a prominent activist in the international communist and worker's movement, a tireless militant for peace and for the triumph of socialism and communism, and a great friend of the Vietnamese people".

Also this morning, Le Duan, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, sent a wreath to the Soviet Embassy in Hanoi.

FOREIGN MINISTRY REJECTS THAILAND'S CHARGE

OW111806 Hanoi VNA in English 1533 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 11 -- A spokesman for the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry today issued a statement categorically rejecting the Thai authorities' repeated slanderous charge that Vietnamese Army volunteers in Kampuchea have crossed the Kampuchean-Thai border and trespassed upon Thailand's territory".

The statement said: "The charge is only a customary trick of the Thai ruling circles aimed at slandering Vietnam and covering up their collusion with China in backing the genocidal Pol Pot clique and other Khmer reactionary forces to oppose the Kampuchea people's revival and the sovereignty of the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

"The Socialist Republic of Vietnam reaffirms its unswerving policy of respecting Thailand's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity though the Thai authorities have provided part of Thailand's territory for the Pol Pot clique and other Khmer reactionaries in their activities of sabotage against the rebirth of the Kampuchean people. The Socialist Republic of Vietnam demands that the Thai authorities stop immediately their misdeeds in the interests of the Thai people and of peace and stability in Southeast Asia".

FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL CRITICIZES ABE

OW111802 Hanoi VNA in English 1537 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 11 -- At his reception here last Saturday of the Japanese charge d'affaires in Vietnam, Shinji Kubota, a senior official of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry criticized Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe's statement of March 8 as "incompatible with the realities in Kampuchean-Thai border areas".

Commenting on the Japanese foreign minister's recent statement, Nguyen Van Khieu, acting head of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry's Department for Asia I, said to his Japanese guest that Vietnam has always respected Thailand's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

He stressed: "While lashing out at Vietnam, Japan deliberately ignores China's intensified actions to exacerbate the situation along the Sino-Vietnamese border and its collusion with Thailand in providing sanctuary for the Khmer reactionaries to oppose the People's Republic of Kampuchea. Japan's partial attitude runs counter to its stated desires for making real contributions to a political solution to the Southeast Asian issue".

RADIO FEATURE ON CONTINUED BORDER TENSION

BK081242 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Feature by station editor Vu Dinh Vinh: "Heighten Vigilance for National Defense"]

[Text] The situation at our country's northern border remains very strained. In these early days of March, the Chinese authorities have continued artillery fire and armed provocations, sending their commandos and scouts to infiltrate into our country for sabotage activities. It is reported that they have moved an additional Army corps from a military zone in the northern part of China to the Sino-Vietnamese border, evacuated many populated areas and production establishments located near the border, and so forth.

In general, the Chinese military strength at the Sino-Vietnamese border is now equal to or even greater than it was when Beijing started its large-scale war of aggression against Vietnam in February and March 1979. This clearly testifies to the Chinese side's hostile policy of creating constant tension.

We must be fully aware of the reactionary and warlike character so as to maintain constant vigilance. At this time 6 years ago, the Chinese invading army was forced to retreat back to its country, thus marking a bitter defeat for the expansionists-hegemonists. Since then, the Beijing authorities' reactionary policy toward our country has not changed an iota, but has become more hostile. Since the Year of the Ox Tet festival, this policy has become very dangerous. Public opinion has witnessed many military, political, and diplomatic activities carried out by the Chinese authorities in accordance with their policy of confrontation and hostility toward Vietnam. They have arrogantly rejected Vietnam's good-will proposals for easing tension at the border and proceeding toward solving problems between the two countries through negotiations, and for normalizing relations and restoring the friendship between the peoples of Vietnam and China.

Worse still, while Vietnam was proposing that both sides stop fighting so that the people along the border could enjoy the traditional New Year festival in peace, the Chinese authorities repeatedly committed many atrocities along the entire border from Lai Chau to Quang Ninh and in Vietnam's airspace and territorial waters. They fired nearly 40,000 artillery rounds into our country's territory and sent their troops, scouts, and commandos to intrude into Vietnamese territory, especially in Ha Tuyen and Lang Son Provinces, committing many new and very barbarous crimes against the local compatriots.

There has been a controversial report linking China's military activities at the Sino-Vietnamese border with Sino-U.S. military collusion. One still remembers that following Deng Xiaoping's January 1979 trip to the United States to seek advice from the U.S. President, Beijing sent 600,000 troops to invade Vietnam, and that in April last year, China gave a red-carpet welcome to Reagan while launching fierce attacks and land-grabbing operations against the Vietnamese border and further escalating their criminal and land-grabbing war against the Vietnamese border. This war has continued for 1 year so far. The visit to Beijing early this year by John Vessey, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff and the trip to China in late last February by Wolfowitz, assistant U.S. secretary of state for Southeast Asian and Pacific Affairs, also coincided with the Beijing authorities' intensified military operations against Vietnam. Wolfowitz held talks with many personalities in the Chinese ruling circles, including Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian. The contents of these talks were kept secret, but according to VOA, both sides centered their talks on the Indochinese situation, and the Wolfowitz joined with the Chinese ruling circles in reasserting continued support for the Khmer reactionaries. This means that they will continue their maneuvers against Vietnam and the other Indochinese countries.

The current Sino-U.S. collusion has not only coincided with the strained situation created by Beijing at the Sino-Vietnamese border but has also further complicated the situation in Southeast Asia, thus posing a threat to peace and stability in the region.

It is noteworthy that over the past few days, a horde of high-ranking U.S. and Chinese military officers took turns in visiting Thailand. U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense Armitage visited Bangkok and then made an inspection tour of the Thai-Cambodian border. He promised to give more military aid to the Bangkok administration in an attempt to turn Thailand into a U.S. arsenal.

Now, Fu Jize, deputy chief of the Chinese Navy, paid a 1-week visit to Thailand. The purpose of his visit was also to discuss ways to help the Khmer reactionaries. The leading officer of the Chinese Navy toured many seaports, naval bases, and Thai Army units, held working sessions with many Thai military and civilian officials, and was given a warm welcome by Thai Prime Minister Prem.

While Bangkok and Beijing were stepping up their slander campaign against Vietnam and the PRK, the visit to Thailand of the deputy chief of the Chinese Navy had no purpose other than to push Beijing-Bangkok military collusion to a new stage. Fu Jize and the commander of the Thai Navy discussed the strategy to be adopted by the naval forces of the two countries in the East Sea. Thai officials revealed that China would wholeheartedly help the Thai Navy increase its strength and that in the future, Thai and Chinese warships would be allowed to exchange port calls. According to the Bangkok press, the possibility of Chinese vessels using Thai sea routes to supply food, weapons, and other war equipment to the Pol Pot army remnants was not ruled out.

It is reported that the Thai foreign minister and the commander of the Thai Army have in recent days noisily appealed to China and Western countries to give military and material assistance to the Pol Pot clique and other reactionary Khmer groups. Chinese President Li Xiannian will visit Thailand in a few days from now. The Beijing magazine LIAOWANG has observed that the timing of this visit to Thailand by Li Xiannian demonstrates strongly that China still supports the Khmer reactionaries and the Thai stand. Public opinion in Bangkok also holds that on his visit to Thailand, Li Xiannian will concentrate on exchanging views with top Thai leaders over the Cambodian situation and will discuss ways to achieve cooperation in helping revive the Pol Pot army remnants and Khmer reactionaries so that they can continue their opposition to and sabotage of the rebirth of the Cambodian people.

At present, the trend toward dialogue in Southeast Asia is growing. The political circles in a number of countries have become ever more aware of the immediate and long-term threat of Chinese expansionism and hegemonism and have been more vigilant against Sino-U.S. military collusion. The goodwill proposals of the three Indochinese countries as already presented at the 10th conference of the foreign ministers of Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam -- which was held recently in Ho Chi Minh City -- have been welcomed by public opinion in many countries and regarded as reasonable and sensible proposals that may contribute to tackling the long-term tension and instability in the region.

The second Vietnam-Indonesia seminar recently held in Jakarta has made the two countries understand each other much better so that they can join hands in contributing to promoting the trend of dialogue in Southeast Asia.



Against such a background, the Sino-U.S.-Thai collusion against Cambodia and the three Indochinese countries as a whole will only create a bad impact on peace and the national independence of Southeast Asian countries.

We have on several occasions shown our goodwill by advancing many proposals for a cease-fire at the border and for resuming negotiations with China so as to normalize the relations between Vietnam and China. In his speech delivered at a ceremony marking the 55th anniversary of the CPV, Comrade General Secretary Le Duan stressed: We are ready to normalize our country's relations with China and are firmly convinced that the friendship between the two peoples will be restored and not otherwise. It is our desire and determination to join with those parties concerned in entering into negotiations so as to quickly reach a solution that can bring peace and stability for Southeast Asian countries.

These are our correct stand and goodwill which have won the attention and applause by public opinion in Southeast Asia and the world. They are quite different from the policy of hostilities and confrontation against Vietnam and other Indochinese countries, which, exercised by the Beijing authorities have met with setbacks.

#### SMUGGLERS TRIED, SENTENCED IN HO CHI MINH CITY

BK270922 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 25 Feb 85

[Text] The Ho Chi Minh City people's court recently held a hearing in Nha Be District to try (Nguyen Van Ninh) and his accomplices on charges of dealing in contraband goods.

(Ninh), born in 1957, had earlier been arrested by the Nha Be District public security service on charges of smuggling and sea-crossing. (Nguyen Van Ninh) did not show repentance despite the fact that he had gone through a period of reeducation. In April 1983, (Ninh) established illegal contacts with a number of deviant and degenerate sailors for trading in foreign cigarettes.

(Nguyen Van Ninh), (Ngo Van Hai), and their accomplices twice managed to get through with the contraband goods. However, they fell into the dragnet of the law on their third attempt. They had smuggled a total of 3,000 cartons of foreign cigarettes into the country. In so doing, they had to smuggle 75 taels of gold out of the country. Their activities had disrupted the market and affected the national economy. Due to the seriousness of their crimes, the court imposed a 12-year prison term and a fine of 1 million dong on (Nguyen Van Ninh) and an 8-year prison term on (Ngo Van Hai). The other culprits each received a suspended sentence of a penalty of reeducation in their area of residence.

#### HANOI ANNOUNCES PLAN TO REDUCE POPULATION GROWTH

OW111157 Hanoi VNA in English 0757 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 11 -- The capital city of Hanoi has announced a plan to reduce its natural population growth rate from 1.96 per cent in 1984 to 1.5 percent in 1985 and one per cent in 1990. The city public health service has increased its technical facilities in the districts and suburban townships so that contraceptive measures could be applied to 70-80 per cent of the couples of reproductive age. Son Tay town has organized a day of birth control registration for employees in all offices and factories and members of the local army units.



MARCOS ASKS TRADE MINISTER TO SPEED UP RECOVERY

HK111603 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 11 Mar 85 pp 1, 14

[By Jose de Vera]

[Text] President Marcos, in a bid to speed up national recovery, directed Trade and Industry Minister Roberto Ongpin yesterday to explore ways of establishing barter trade with Middle East countries and joint ventures with Arab businessmen.

The president issued the order after meeting with Ahmad Hassan Khalili, of the KHALEEJ TIMES of Abu Dhabi, who paid a courtesy call on him recently at Malacanang.

Mr Marcos asked Ongpin to form a group to study the twin proposals. The group would include representatives of the National Productivity Commission and the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

In a meeting with Mr Marcos, Information Minister Gregorio S. Cendana said the Arab newsman suggested that study be made on Philippine barter trade with the Middle East.

The region, Khalili said, has an enormous market potential for Philippine products like sugar, coffee, and mangoes. The products are available in Saudi Arabia only three months in one year. Rattan furniture items are also popular in the Middle East, the newsman said.

Cendana said Khalili also informed the president that the private sector in Abu Dhabi is interested in entering into joint ventures with local banks. The Arab newsman also told Mr Marcos that he had come to the Philippines against the advice of people, including leaders-in-exile of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) based in the Middle East. He said the MNLF leaders warned him of "fighting" and "the cloud of suspicion, animosity, and hatred" in the country. But when he went to Mindanao, Khalili said he did not see any rebel nor witness any fighting. Khalili said there was security and profitability of investment in the country, as well as above peace and security. "After seeing Mindanao, I can no longer believe the other side as I used to. And I did not admire you before, Mr President, but now I deeply appreciate what you have done. I respect you for that and I would tell the people at home what you have done in Mindanao," Khalili told Mr Marcos.

Cendana quoted the president as pointing out that Mindanao will be the key to the economic salvation of the country, because the government is now investing not only funds but talent and energy as well in its development.

Mr Marcos said that except for Surigao, the whole island of Mindanao grows agricultural crops 12 months of the year.

MARCOS INTERVIEWED ON ASEAN, DOMESTIC ISSUES

GF111218 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 11 Mar 85 p 1

[Article by Ahmad Hassan, "Our Staff Reporter Who Was in Manila Recently"]

[Text] President Ferdinand Marcos of the Philippines has indicated that the ASEAN group of countries is planning a new initiative to resolve the Middle East problem. President Marcos said this in an interview with KHALEEJ TIMES at the Malacanang Palace in Manila last week.

He also said that the question of official recognition of and representation for the Palestine Liberation Organisation would be decided by the ASEAN group as a part of a unified policy on the Middle East.

During the interview, President Marcos expressed the view that U.S. policy in the Middle East had failed because it did not take into account the just and lasting rights of the Palestinians in the Middle East. Commenting on news reports that his government had denied permission to the PLO to open its office at Manila, he said he had not refused such permission, but was insisting, that the ASEAN group should come up with a united decision on the matter. The president said that his government had always supported the just and inalienable rights of the Palestinians. The stand taken by the Philippines at the United Nations, at the Non-aligned Movement and other international forums was clear evidence of its policy.

Mr Marcos praised the recent Jordan-PLO initiative to resolve the Middle East crisis and said that Egypt had also played a constructive role. The president, however, condemned the Camp David agreement, and said that it was an immature attempt at resolving the problem. The U.S. had tried to totally ignore the Palestinians and this was a mistake. He said that a most important role in the Middle East could be played by Saudi Arabia.

The president said that with the worsening of the Lebanese crisis, the concern of Third World countries had grown. He hoped that both ASEAN and GCC [Gulf Cooperation Council] countries would play an effective role not only with regard to the Palestine question, but also the war between Iraq and Iran.

Turning to problems facing his own country, President Marcos said that the economy was recovering from the devastating impact of domestic and international events. The price of sugar, the principal export of the Philippines, had fallen drastically during the last few months, and incursions by the NPA (New Peoples Army), the communist movements and the MNLF (the Moro National Liberation Front) had increased expenditure on the Armed Forces.

A compromise formula was now being worked out with the MNLF and Mr Marcos expressed the hope that the forthcoming visit of the Islamic League (Rabitat al-'Alam al-Islami secretary-general, Dr Omar Abdallah Nasif, would contribute to resolving the fighting in Mindanao. Dr Nasif is expected to visit the Philippines next month.

In the two-hour interview, Mr Marcos decried allegations that his government had mistreated the Muslims of Mindanao. In a voice choked with emotion, he said that the Muslims of Mindanao had saved his life during the Second World War when he led the nationalist forces against the Japanese. The Muslims were his 'blood brothers'. But the president admitted, that the Muslims of Mindanao had been victims of 'benign neglect'. All the previous governments of independent Philippines had denied the Muslims of Mindanao their basic rights in participating in the progress of the country. It would be his most important responsibility, Mr Marcos declared, to see that the Muslim majority areas of Mindanao developed and their status was brought on a par with the people of Luzon, the country's largest island.

President Marcos said that he would see to it that the Tripoli agreement signed between Colonel Qadhafi of Libya the ICO secretary-general, and the MNLF leaders was implemented in full.

The Philippine president was also of the opinion that bilateral trade agreements between Third World countries and multilateral agreements between small Asian groups like ASEAN and GCC could lead to productive results. This was a theme echoed by Mrs Imelda Marcos, wife of the president and minister for human settlements who was present at the interview. She advocated barter agreements among Third World countries to overcome inflation. President Marcos said that private investors would be allowed to have shares in various industrial units of the Philippines. These units, according to the authorities, have suffered a setback due to reduced prices of certain commodities produced by the country.

Mr Marcos, who is also a writer, is currently working on a project that involves the rewriting of Filipino history. He said that in his work he would seek to redress the injustice done to Muslim freedom fighters.

#### VER ASKS RESERVISTS TO WORK FOR GOOD RELATIONS

HK111600 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 11 Mar 85 pp 1, 13

[Text] Gen. Fabian C. Ver, Armed Forces chief of staff (on leave), exhorted members of the National Reservists Association [NRAI] yesterday to work jointly with the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] in maintaining good rapport and best relations between the military and civilian population.

Speaking during a convention held by the NRAI, which has a membership of over one million reservists, at Camp Aguinaldo, Ver warned that "there are forces now which seek to create an impassable cleavage between the soldier and citizen." Through sophisticated disinformation technique, he said, facts are distorted and conjectures are professed as truth.

Ver, an honorary national chairman of NRAI, noted that the reservists who, he said, assume the roles of citizen and soldier, should convey to the people the military's commitment to justice and peace, unity and progress, and to the rule of law. He denounced efforts of some groups to play up and exaggerate the "misdemeanors of a few" while ignoring "the heroism of the soldiers in the field."

"Only the subversives, the terrorists, the communists, and other enemies of the state stand to gain if the soldier is eventually alienated from the citizenry," Ver said. The AFP chief also warned politicians and "self-made messiahs" against becoming "unwitting allies" of those waging a campaign of disinformation. "These kind of politicians," Ver said, "will gain nothing from their collaboration, and in the end will be crushed by the very forces they seek to exploit."

Ver was cited by NRAI for his support and encouragement of the association, particularly in its outstanding citizen-soldier award project.

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**14 MARCH 85**

